D-ASH 5

北沢未也・秋重 学

■スピリッツコミックス好評発売中！

YAWARA!（浦沢直樹）…全29巻
JIGORO（浦沢直樹）…全1巻
めぞん一刻（画：高橋留美子）…全15巻
神の左手悪魔の右手（作：かずお）…全6巻
14歳（建国かずお）…全20巻
男塾（本宮ひろ志）…全6巻
ヤングマン（大田垣）…全6巻
F（エフ）（大田垣）…全28巻
かばちゃ与巻（大田垣　タモツ）…全1巻
Cryingフリーマン（川 原一夫・池上遼一）…全9巻
トラキーヨ（吉田聡）…全6巻
花男（松本大洋）…全3巻
ハーフな弁ﾌﾟﾘ（画：ももち）…全2巻
りぼんぐゲーム（作：ももち）…全10巻
結婚しようよ（作：ももち）…全6巻
りぼべーしょんブリーズ（画：野不二雄）…全2巻
あどりよシネ珠玉集（画：野不二雄）…全1巻
うにばーしてぃ BOYS（画：野不二雄）…全1巻
メルモク熱烈歓迎（画：之内喜雄）…全11巻
ワタナベ（画：之内喜雄）…全3巻
画色定番（画：松本あけみ）…全1巻
強い 画 一直本大洋短編画（松本大洋）…全1巻
16月の画月記 一番近い土曜日（荒誠治）…全1巻
強らはみんな生きている（一色伸幸　山本直樹）…全4巻
ありがとう（山本直樹）…全4巻
やったろうしゃん!!（画：秀則）…全15巻
100種の男（画：宮本すゆき）…全12巻

BOOK DESIGN・TAKAHASHI JUNZI

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北沢未也
秋重 学 著作集

■ビッグコミックス

D-ASH …… 1～3巻発売中

■スピリッツコミックス好評発売中！

美味しんぼ（雁屋哲・花咲アキラ）…1～65巻
修羅（土田世紀）…全9巻
編集王（土田世紀）…全16巻
ギャフリーフェイク（浦沢直樹）…1～12巻
強強太学物語（江川達也）…1～21巻
いいひと（高橋しん）…1～20巻
月下の棋士（能條純一）…1～19巻
Happy（浦沢直樹）…1～17巻
夜練子（画：福山庸治・中原裕）…1～14巻
チューロウ（画：倉田真由美）…全2巻
今日子（画：倉田真由美・木上遼一）…全2巻
アイラブ ユー（画：倉田真由美）…全3巻
しっぷうどとう（画：倉田真由美）…1～7巻
強い盾 を（画：林よし炎）…全1巻
遥しのアイリーン（画：新井英樹）…全6巻
ノンスル（一色まこと）…全6巻
強れ!!天使（画：倉田真由美）…全4巻
週刊漫画バイノン（カサギヒロシ）…全3巻
強々の画（大田垣）…全1巻
D-ASH（北沢未也 秋重学）…全5巻
七夕の国（画：岡崎均）…1巻
E-SING SUN（一色伸幸・まかもとたけし）…1巻
ラブレター（しんのひろあき 若狭たけし）…1巻
IWAMAL（玉井雪雄）…1巻

ビッグコミックスのデータ満載のホームページ
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BIG SPIRITS COMICS

D-ASH

ダッシュ

5

Bonds

【作】
北沢未也
【画】
秋重学

【STORY】
KITAZAWA MIYA
【ART】
AKISHIGE MANABU

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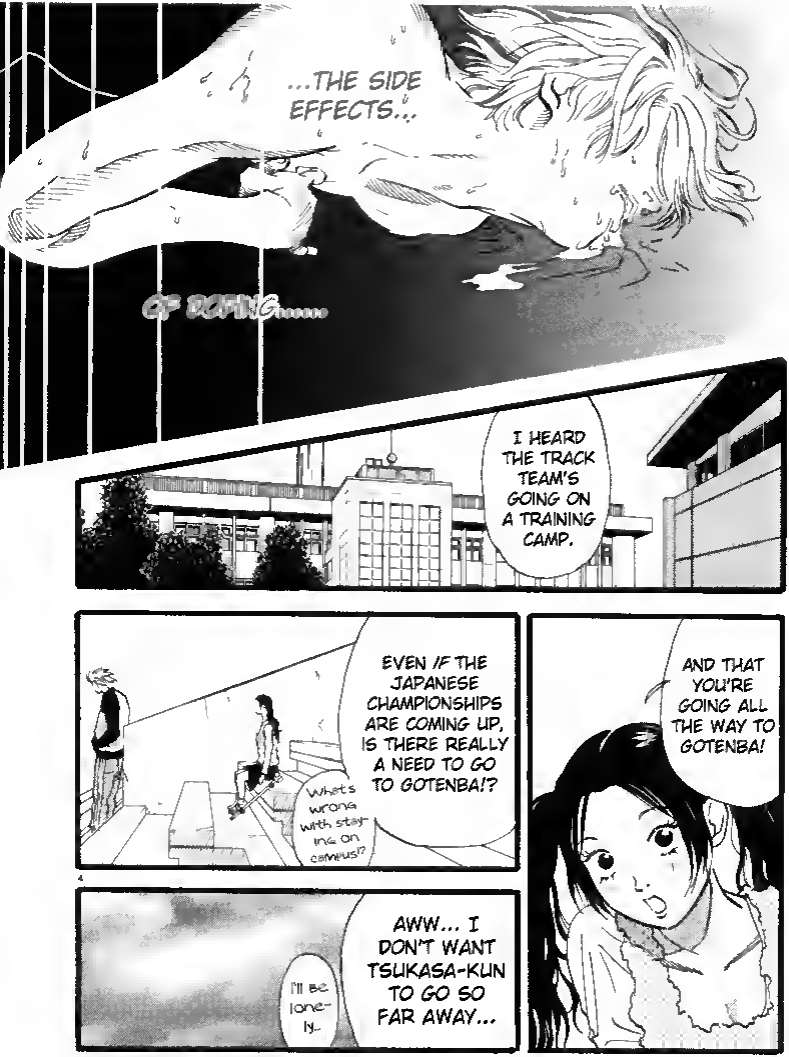
Rihwan's Stew of Horror
Do Your Best ♡ Sae ♡
Aim for 9 seconds~ Ritsu!
Head for the moon! by Kimitaku
Go Faster! Faster than anyone else!
Faster with the manuscript!

act.44
Kiss

<JUJU'S NOTES: I CAN ONLY GUESS, BUT I ASSUME THE "MANUSCRIPT" IS A REFERRAL TO THE CONSTANT AND WIDELY KNOWN FEUD BETWEEN MANGAKA AND THEIR EDITORS WHEN IT COMES TO MANUSCRIPT DEADLINES >

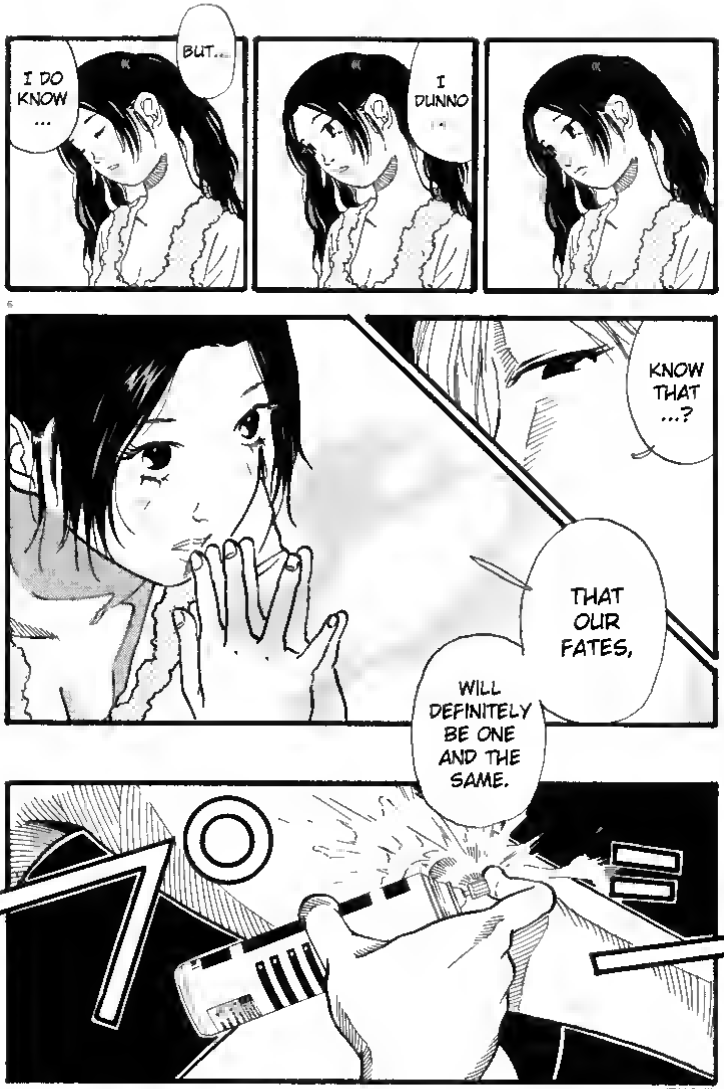
BOY, DO YOU LIKE THE 100M DASH?
OF COURSE! IT FEELS GREAT TO BEING ABLE TO RUN FAST.
BUT...
OUT OF ALL SPORTS, IT'S THE LONELIEST OF ALL.
ONCE THE STARTER PISTOL SOUNDS, YOU'RE LEFT ALL ALONE BY YOURSELF, UNABLE TO RELY ON THE HELP OF OTHERS.
2
I...
I'M ALREADY USED TO "LONE-LINESS".

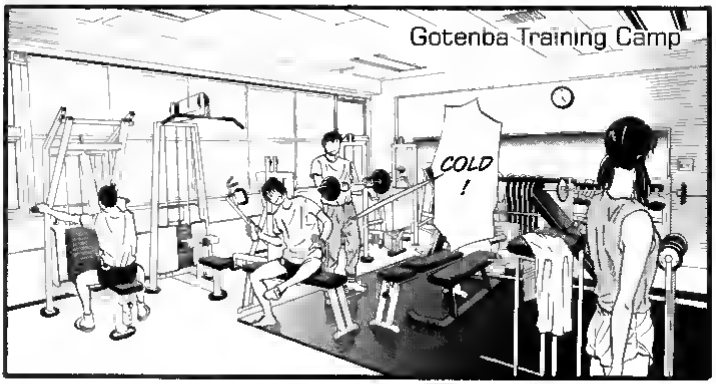
<THUMP>
3
thump!
I'VE BEEN SEEING IT A LOT LATELY... THE DREAM OF MY FIRST MEETING WITH MARVIN...
AGAIN.....
IT'S HERE AGAIN...!
<THUMP>


...THE SIDE EFFECTS...
OF DOPING.....
I HEARD THE TRACK TEAM'S GOING ON A TRAINING CAMP.
EVEN IF THE JAPANESE CHAMPIONSHIPS ARE COMING UP, IS THERE REALLY A NEED TO GO TO GOTENBA!?
What's wrong with staying on campus!?
AND THAT YOU'RE GOING ALL THE WAY TO GOTENBA!
AWW... I DON'T WANT TSUKASA-KUN TO GO SO FAR AWAY...
I'll be lonely.

<JUJU'S NOTES GOTENBA (御殿場) IS A CITY IN THE SHIZUOKA PREFECTURE, LOCATED BESIDE MOUNT FUJI WHICH ABOUT 100 KILOMETERS (APPROXIMATELY 60 MILES) AWAY FROM TOKYO>

NO-THING
W- WHAT IS IT!? WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
Heh-e
I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT THE JOKE-LIKE FATES...
glance
OF SEN-PAI AND YOURSELF..
THERE'S SENPAI... WHO WANTS TO RUN FASTER THAN ANY-ONE ELSE...
AND THEN THERE'S YOU, WHO CAN'T EVEN RUN IF YOU WANTED TO...
IF THE TWO OF YOU EACH HAD COMPLETELY DIFFERENT LIVES AND FATES... I WONDER IF YOU'D STILL END UP TOGETHER.


I DO KNOW ...
BUT...
I DUNNO
KNOW THAT ...?
THAT OUR FATES,
WILL DEFINITELY BE ONE AND THE SAME.
<PUSH!>


Gotenba Training Camp
COLD!

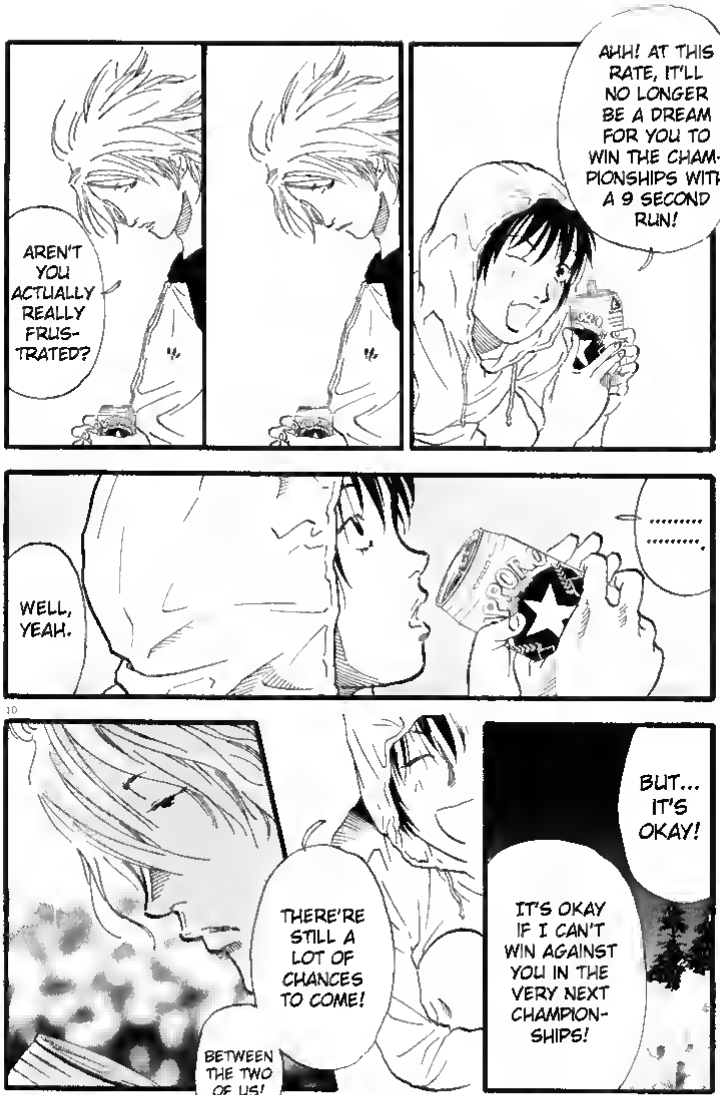
And it's not like I'll hurt us with it since it's not Sis's
THE MEALS PREPARED BY THE OLD LADIES HERE ARE JUST HORRIBLE!
thu thu
snake snake snake
MY MUSCLES ARE ACHING AGAIN!

Come on!

Tsukasa!
ガチャ!
<GACHYA!>

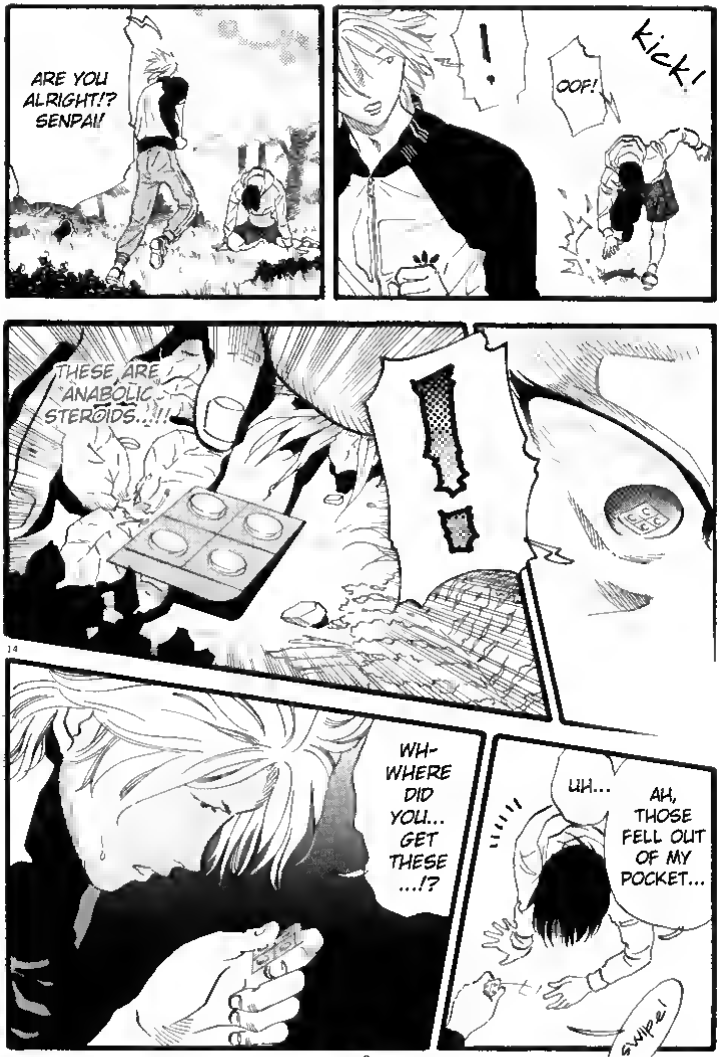
<HYA!?
ひゃ！
sneak
creep
HEHE HEHEH!
COLD, ISN'T IT!? HERE, I BOUGHT ONE FOR MY JUNIOR!
Beer
Beer
.....!!

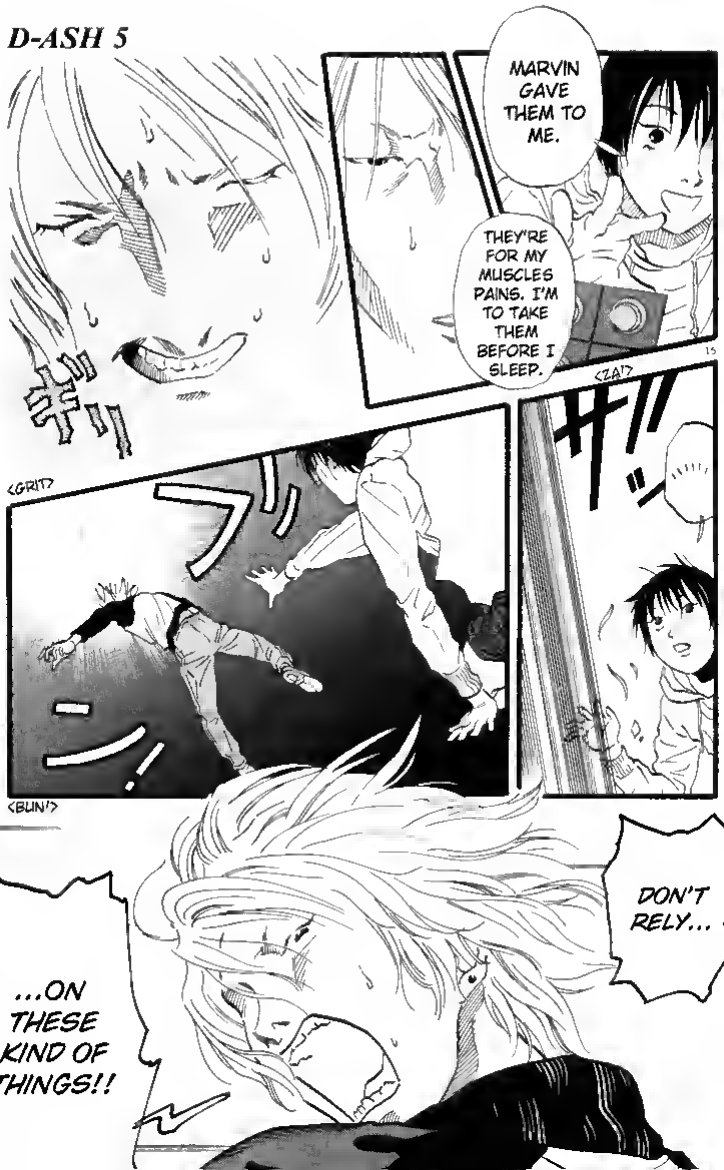
I BELIEVE IT'S BAD FOR YOU IF YOU ACCUMULATE TOO MUCH STRESS LIKE THAT.
AHH... DON'T WORRY SO MUCH.
THERE'S AN IMPORTANT RACE COMING UP! WHAT ARE YOU THINKING!?
NO THANK YOU!
WANT IT?
CONGRATULATIONS!
GLUG GLUG GLUG
CHUG CHUG
CHUG CHUG
Hhaaaa
Hi.. Hold on.
Come on! Sit down! Drink up! It's fine! All's good!
YOU BROKE THE 10 SECOND BARRIER DURING TRAINING TODAY! 9.98 SECONDS!
HUH?

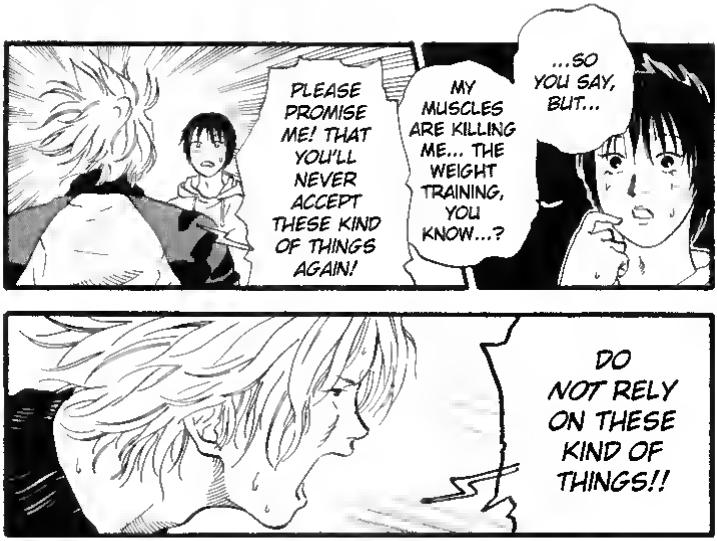

AHH! AT THIS RATE, IT'LL NO LONGER BE A DREAM FOR YOU TO WIN THE CHAMPIONSHIPS WITH A 9 SECOND RUN!
AREN'T YOU ACTUALLY REALLY FRUSTRATED?
.....
.....
WELL, YEAH.
BUT... IT'S OKAY!
IT'S OKAY IF I CAN'T WIN AGAINST YOU IN THE VERY NEXT CHAMPIONSHIPS!
THERE'RE STILL A LOT OF CHANCES TO COME!
BETWEEN THE TWO OF US!

TALENTED SPRINTERS ARE LIKE ROUGH DIAMONDS, WAITING FOR THEIR TURN TO SHINE.
NOTHING'S BEEN DECIDED YET, LIKE PROFESSOR ARISUE HAD SAID,
CHIRP CHIRP
FOR NOW, MY GOAL IS TO GET UNDER 10.10 SECONDS FOR THE JAPANESE CHAMPIONSHIPS, I'M ONLY 0.06 SECONDS AWAY RIGHT NOW!
AND THEN, LITTLE BY LITTLE, I'LL BE COMING AFTER YOU!
I...
YOU...?
glug glug glug glug glug glug glug glug
PSHA

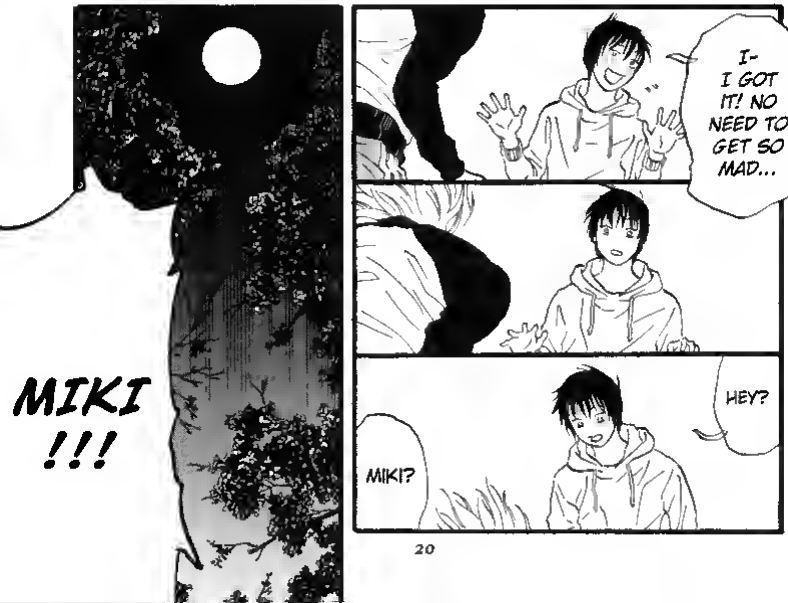
LET'S PLAY TAG!
SEN-PAI!
HAH?
<BUN!>
GAR!
フニ!
Ahahaha
HURRY UP AND CATCH ME! OR YOU'LL BE 'IT' FOREVER SENPAI!
HEY, COULD IT BE THAT YOU'RE A BAD DRUNK?
<ZA X3>


ARE YOU ALRIGHT!? SENPAI!
!
OOF!
kick!
THESE ARE ANABOLIC STEROIDS...!!
14
WH-WHERE DID YOU... GET THESE ...!?
UH...
AH, THOSE FELL OUT OF MY POCKET...
SWIPE!


MARVIN GAVE THEM TO ME.
THEY'RE FOR MY MUSCLES PAINS. I'M TO TAKE THEM BEFORE I SLEEP.
15
<ZA!?>
<GRIT>
<BUN!?>
DON'T RELY...
...ON THESE KIND OF THINGS!!


PLEASE PROMISE ME! THAT YOU'LL NEVER ACCEPT THESE KIND OF THINGS AGAIN!
MY MUSCLES ARE KILLING ME... THE WEIGHT TRAINING, YOU KNOW...?
...SO YOU SAY, BUT...
DO NOT RELY ON THESE KIND OF THINGS!!

16


MIKI !!!
I- I GOT IT! NO NEED TO GET SO MAD...
HEY?
MIKI?

...I'M FINE...
IT'LL BE OVER SOON...
HEY! MIKI! GET A HOLD OF YOUR-SELF!
SORRY...
COULD IT BE THAT YOU CAN'T HANDLE ALCOHAL WELL...?
17
YEP... FOR SURE...
SEN-PAI...
HATE...
DON'T...
THE 100M DASH...
YOU ARE DEFINITELY A BAD DRUNK...

WHATEVER HAPPENS AT THE JAPANESE CHAMPION SHIPS...
PLEASE DON'T HATE IT...
Japanese Athletic Championships ..Commences
AT THAT TIME...
I COULDN'T EVEN BEGIN TO IMAGINE THE EVENTS THAT WOULD OCCUR AT THESE CHAMPIONSHIPS
THAT WOULD SEPARATE THE FATES OF TSUKASA AND I...

JUJU: YAY!!!
...FROM NOW ON I'LL BE BOTH THE EDITOR & THE TRANSLATOR...
.....
NOOOOOOO!!! ;_;

RAW-PROVIDER:

PV82 & THOR-HAMMER

TRANSLATOR:

JUJUBIX

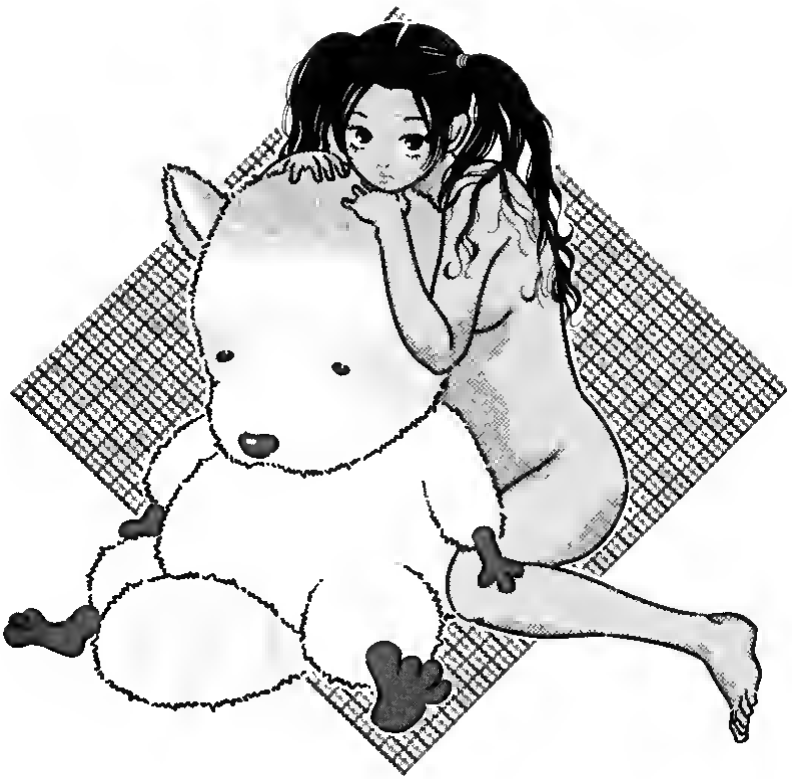
EDITOR:

JUJUBIX

PROOFING & QC:

TBA

act.45
Attack

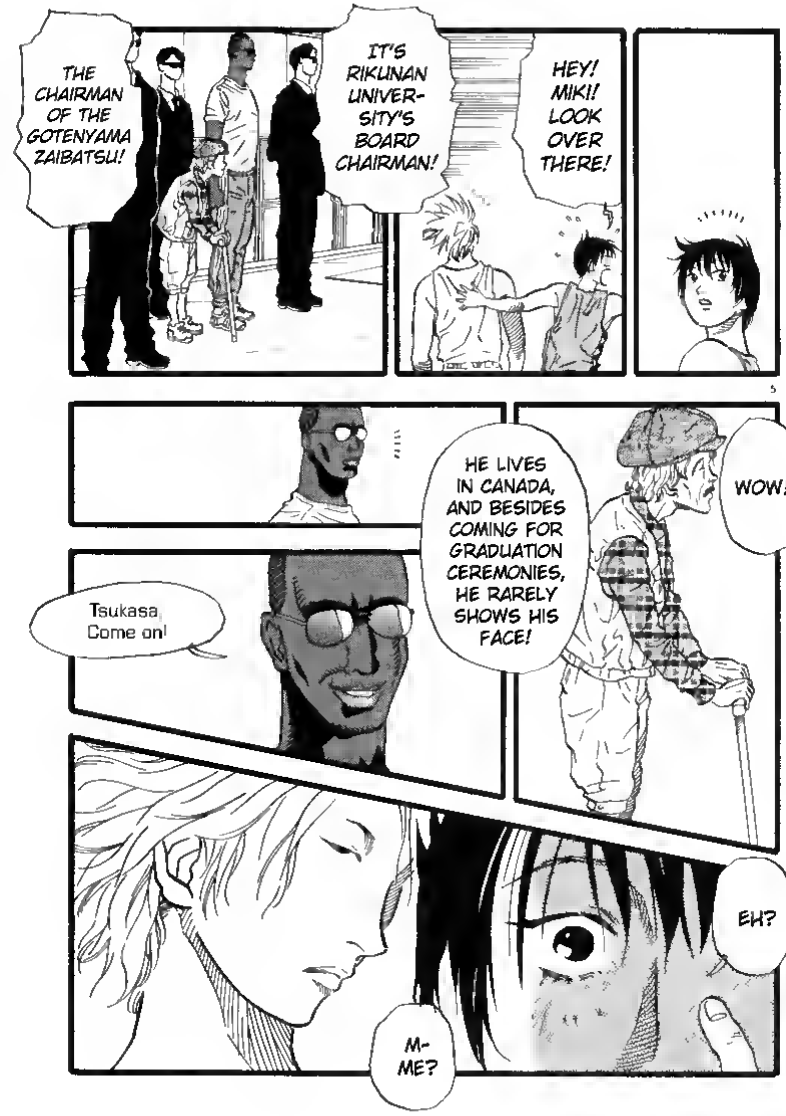


FOR THE NEXT 3 DAYS...
THE RACE FOR THE FASTEST MAN IN ALL OF JAPAN...
SHALL BEGIN!
155
光
<SHINE>

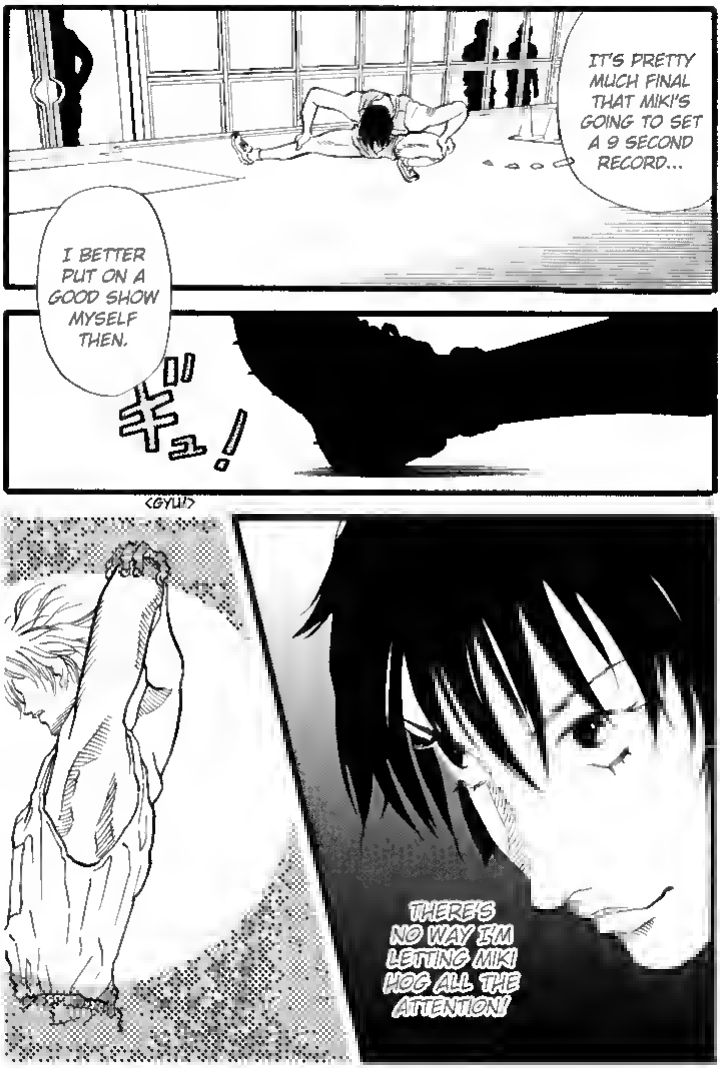
I WONDER WHY IT IS... THAT ONLY AT A PLACE LIKE THIS...
CAN MY HEART BE FILLED WITH SUCH CALMNESS.
IT'S THE SCENT OF THE FIELDS CARRIED BY THE WINDS.
THAT SCENT!
AND YOU KNOW, IT'S MAKING ME REALLY REALLY EXCITED.
I'M EVEN GETTING HARD DOWN THERE.
PER-VERTED, ISN'T IT?

That's so plain! You dressing for the Olympics!?
WE'RE GOING ON TELEVISION YOU KNOW! SINCE I'M TRYING TO STAND OUT I'M IN RED! SEE! RED!
IT'S ALL WHITE!
BUT ANYWAY, WHAT'S WITH THAT OUTFIT!
WHAT? IS THAT SOME SORT OF AN OPEN ATTACK AGAINST RED?
Hehehe!
I WANTED TO BE "WHITE"...
YES,
THIS IS AN ATTACK.

<JUJU'S NOTE: A 'ZAIBATSU' (財閥) IS A "FINANCIAL CLIQUE", OR MORE SIMPLY, A BUSINESS CONGLOMERATE.>


THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GOTENYAMA ZAIBATSU!
IT'S RIKUNAN UNIVERSITY'S BOARD CHAIRMAN!
HEY! MIKI! LOOK OVER THERE!
5
WOW!
HE LIVES IN CANADA, AND BESIDES COMING FOR GRADUATION CEREMONIES, HE RARELY SHOWS HIS FACE!
Tsukasa, Come on!
EH?
M-ME?

OF COURSE THIS'LL BE AFTER THE FINAL RACE IN 2 DAYS...
THE CHAIRMAN HERE WOULD LIKE HAVE A TALK OVER DINNER WITH YOU.
EH...
smile!
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT, IIZUKA-KUN.
O-OH...
472
DINNER HUH...
OF COURSE, MIKI WILL PROBABLY ALSO BE COMING AS THE CHAMPION...
AH...
T- THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SIR.

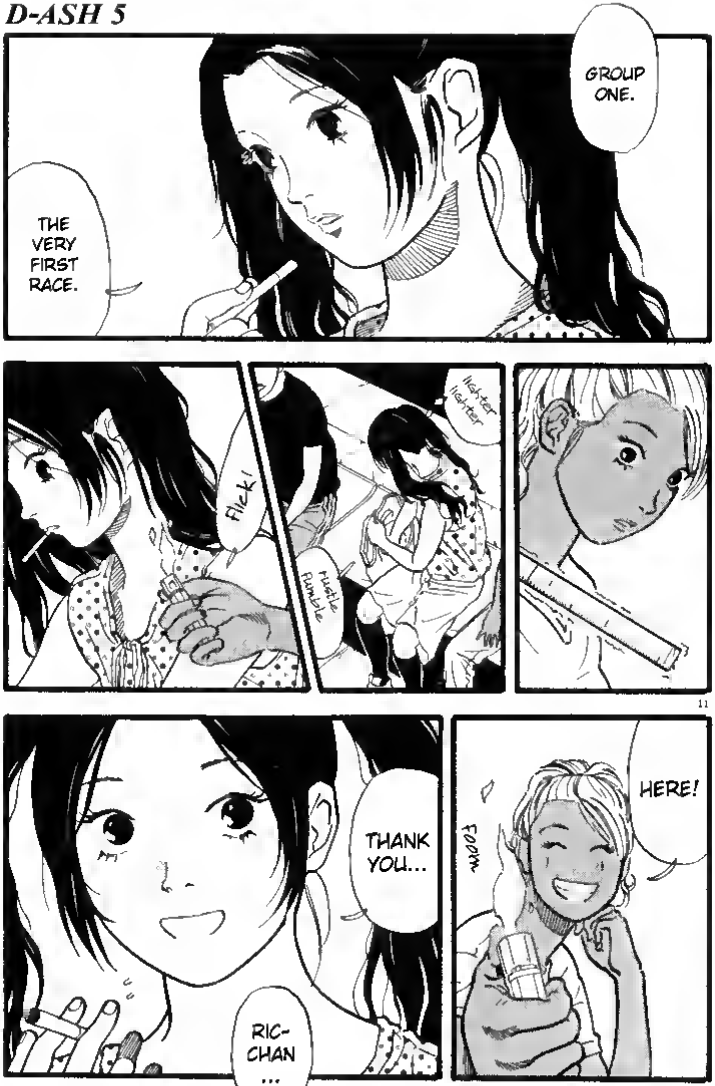

IT'S PRETTY MUCH FINAL THAT MIKI'S GOING TO SET A 9 SECOND RECORD...
I BETTER PUT ON A GOOD SHOW MYSELF THEN.
ギュ!
<GYU!>
THERE'S NO WAY I'M LETTING MIKI HOG ALL THE ATTENTION!

BY THE WAY MARVIN, HOW IS IT WITH MIKI TAKUMI?
LIKE YOU WISHED, HE'LL BE SETTING A 9 SECOND RECORD IN THE FINAL RACE IN 2 DAYS...
THE BIRTH OF ASIA'S FIRST 9 SECOND SPRINTER.
I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT...
...BUT,
WHAT A PITY IT IS.
INDEED.
SINCE FOR HIM, THIS MAY BE THE FIRST AND LAST 9 SECOND SPRINT HE'LL EVER HAVE FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE.

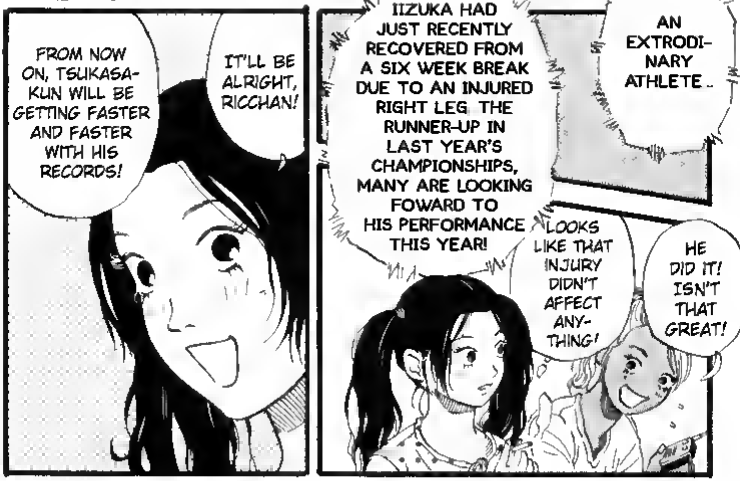
NAKA-BAYASHI-SAN!
YO!
Just a kid art ediay before the race
W-WHO THE HELL'S PATTIN' MA HEAD!?
pat
pat
WHAT! AGAINST THE REGIONAL CHAMPION ALREADY!?
IT'S DECIDED, WE'RE RACING IN THE PRELIMS
I MAY HAVE LOST TO YOU AND GOTTEN THIRD PLACE LAST YEAR, BUT THIS YEAR I'M NOT LOSING!
YOU BETTER NOT FORGET ABOUT ME EITHER!!
ヒ!
I'VE COME ALL THE WAY FROM KYUSHU!
KUMADA'S THE NAME!
291
<BIP>

<JUJU'S NOTE: KYUSHU — OR KYUUSHUU (九州) IS THE SOUTHERN-MOST OF THE FOUR MAIN ISLANDS OF JAPAN.>

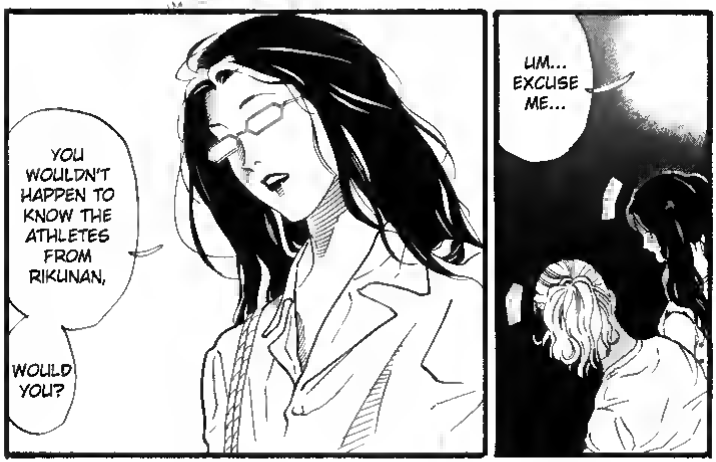
I WAS BEATEN BY MIKI TAKUMI WHO WAS JUST A FIRST YEAR BRAT DURING MY FINAL SENIOR INTERHIGH COMPETITION! THIS WILL BE MY RETURNING MATCH!
ウ!
I'M HERE REPRESENTING THE REGION OF KYUSHU!
OH... I REMEMBER YOU.. THAT TIME AT THE "STUDENT TOURNAMENT".
But damn, you are big!
HUH?
Let's get along or not
AND MY GOAL ISN'T TO WIN AGAINST SOMEONE LIKE YOU!
<GRIP!>
<POINT!>
HEY... SAE...
WHAT GROUP IS TSUKASA IN FOR THE PRELIMINARIES?
10
BEATING MIKI IS EVERYONE'S GOAL...
WE'RE ALL SAYING "I'LL DO MY BEST"... BUT EVERYONE'S REALLY AIMING TO BE "THE BEST IN JAPAN"
INDEED.

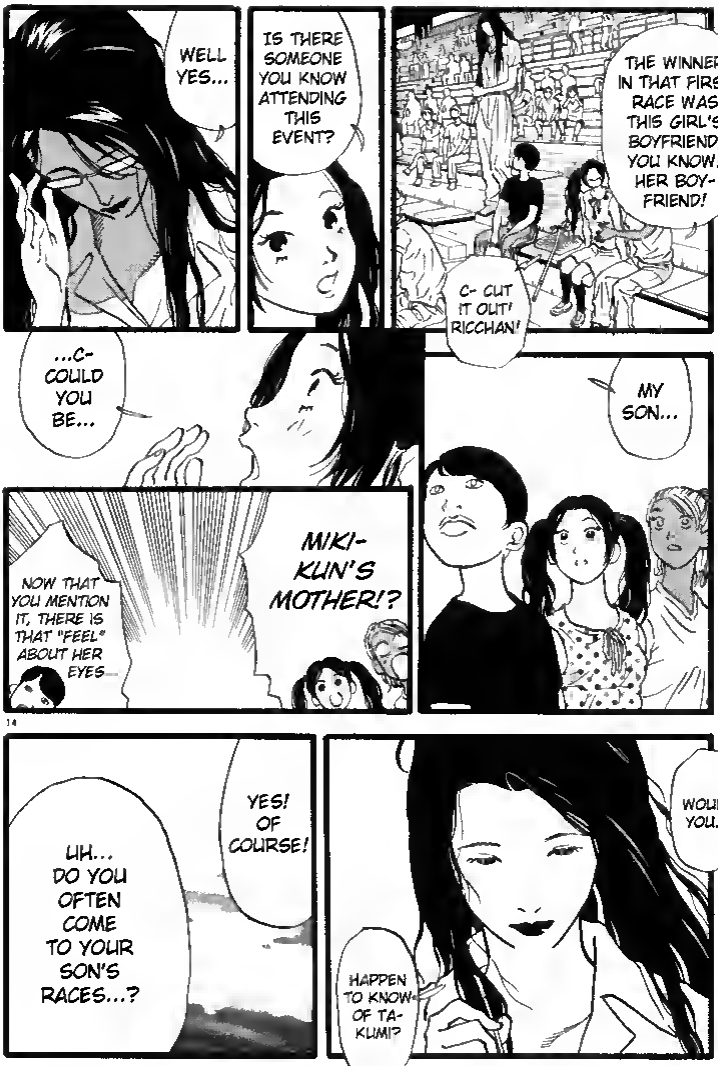

GROUP ONE.
THE VERY FIRST RACE.
flick!
fiddle fumble
lighter lighter
HERE!
foom
THANK YOU...
RIC-CHAN ...

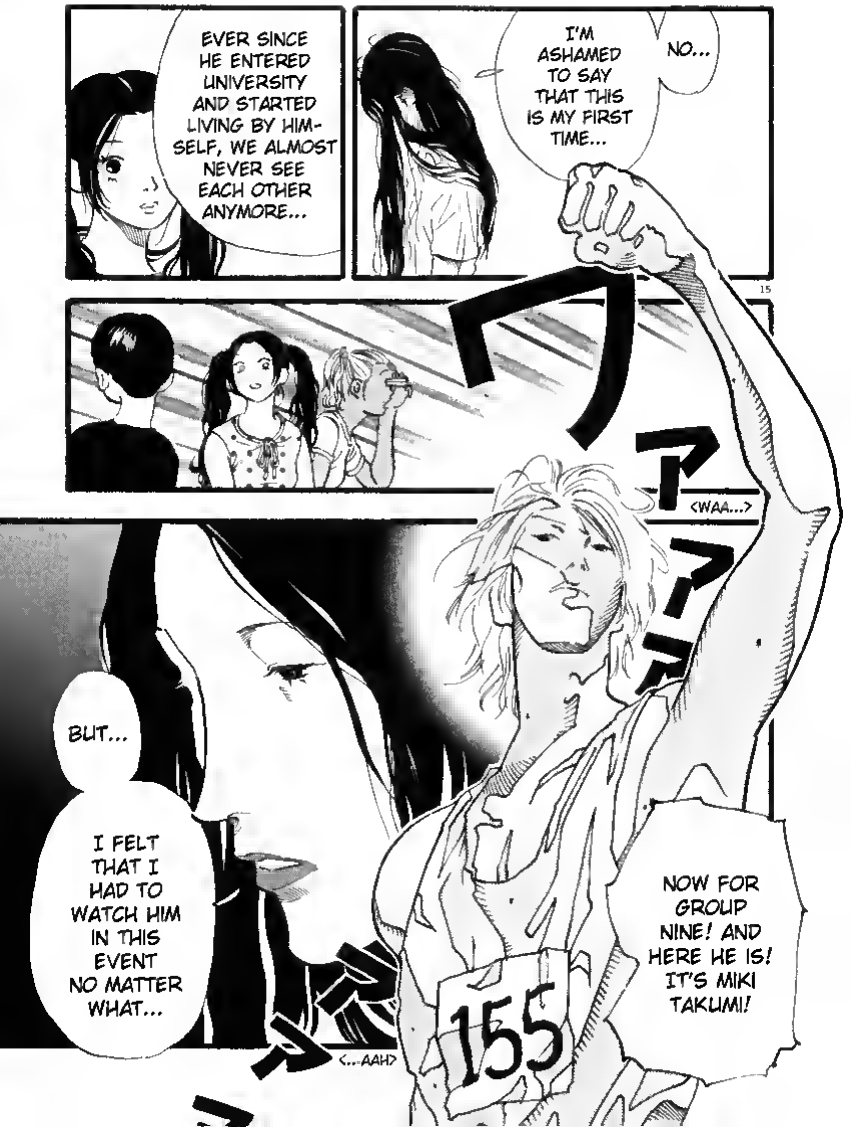
<ZAN!>
311
AND IT'S OVER! IT'S IIZUKA! THE FIRST PLACE IN GROUP ONE GOES TO IIZUKA TSUKASA, 3RD YEAR AT RIKUNAN UNIVERSITY!
AND HERE COMES HIS TIME!
10.13 SECONDS! IT'S 10.13!
<OOOOH>
IIZUKA HAS ALSO BEATEN HIS PERSONAL BEST! CUTTING 0.02 SECONDS FROM HIS LAST RECORD SET AT THE STUDENT TOURNAMENT!
WITH AN AMAZING TIME, THESE TWO WILL BE MOVING ON TO THE SEMI-FINALS TOMORROW!
FORMER OLYMPIC RUNNER NAKABA-YASHI REGRET-TABLY GETS 2ND WITH 10.14!


FROM NOW ON, TSUKASA-KUN WILL BE GETTING FASTER AND FASTER WITH HIS RECORDS!
IT'LL BE ALRIGHT, RICCHAN!
IIZUKA HAD JUST RECENTLY RECOVERED FROM A SIX WEEK BREAK DUE TO AN INJURED RIGHT LEG. THE RUNNER-UP IN LAST YEAR'S CHAMPIONSHIPS, MANY ARE LOOKING FOWARD TO HIS PERFORMANCE THIS YEAR!
AN EXTRODI-NARY ATHLETE..
LOOKS LIKE THAT INJURY DIDN'T AFFECT ANY-THING!
HE DID IT! ISN'T THAT GREAT!

SINCE WE PROMISED... RIGHT?




WELL YES...
IS THERE SOMEONE YOU KNOW ATTENDING THIS EVENT?
THE WINNER IN THAT FIRST RACE WAS THIS GIRL'S BOYFRIEND, YOU KNOW! HER BOY-FRIEND!
C- CUT IT OUT! RICCHAN!
...C-COULD YOU BE...
MY SON...
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, THERE IS THAT "FEEL" ABOUT HER EYES
MIKI-KUN'S MOTHER!?
14
YES! OF COURSE!
UH... DO YOU OFTEN COME TO YOUR SON'S RACES...?
WOULD YOU..
HAPPEN TO KNOW OF TA-KUMI?


EVER SINCE HE ENTERED UNIVERSITY AND STARTED LIVING BY HIMSELF, WE ALMOST NEVER SEE EACH OTHER ANYMORE...
I'M ASHAMED TO SAY THAT THIS IS MY FIRST TIME...
NO...
15
アアアア
<WAA...>
BUT...
I FELT THAT I HAD TO WATCH HIM IN THIS EVENT NO MATTER WHAT...
<...AAH>
155
NOW FOR GROUP NINE! AND HERE HE IS! IT'S MIKI TAKUMI!

<SPLENDOR>
豪
MEASURING 182cm, HE UTILIZES HIS BODY TO EXERT A MAGNIFICENT STRIDE! MIKI TAKUMI DISPLAYS A TRULY GRACEFUL SPRINT!
SERI-OUSLY ?
16
瞬
<INSTANTANEOUS>

AND A CRUSHING VICTORY!
AN OVER-WHELMING VICTORY BY MIKI TAKUMI!
LIKE A TRUE CHAMPION! HE TAKES FIRST PLACE IN MAJESTIC FORM!
155
ARE THE RUMOURS THAT HE'LL SET A 9 SECOND RECORD AT THE FINALS TRUE?
<MI-KI X3>
AND HIS TIME IS OUT! 10.02 SECONDS! 10.02!
.....
PRO-BABLY.
SETTING A NEW RECORD FOR BOTH THE CHAM-PIONSHIPS AND ALL OF JAPAN!
<MI-KI X3>

1H
<MI-KI X4>
YES... THIS IS AN "ATTACK"... AGAINST THE TWO OF YOU.

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JUJU: I HAVE THIS LOVE HATE THING FOR SPORTS ANNOUNCERS... THEIR OVERLY PASSIONATE VOICES AND EMOTIONS... IT'S QUITE FUN TO HEAR... YET A PAIN TO DO SOMETIMES -_-;;; PLUS! IT GIVES ME AN EXCUSE TO USE ODD "BIG" WORDS I RARELY CAN INCLUDE OTHERWISE IN THIS WORK :P... I HAD MADE AN OLD ODD DECISION TO PUT ALL TEXT COMING VIA ELECTRONICS AS Kronika... AND THIS HAS APPARENTLY COME BACK TO HAUNT ME IN A HORRIBLE WAY AS YOU CAN SEE...

RAW-PROVIDER:

PV82 & THOR-HAMMER

TRANSLATOR:

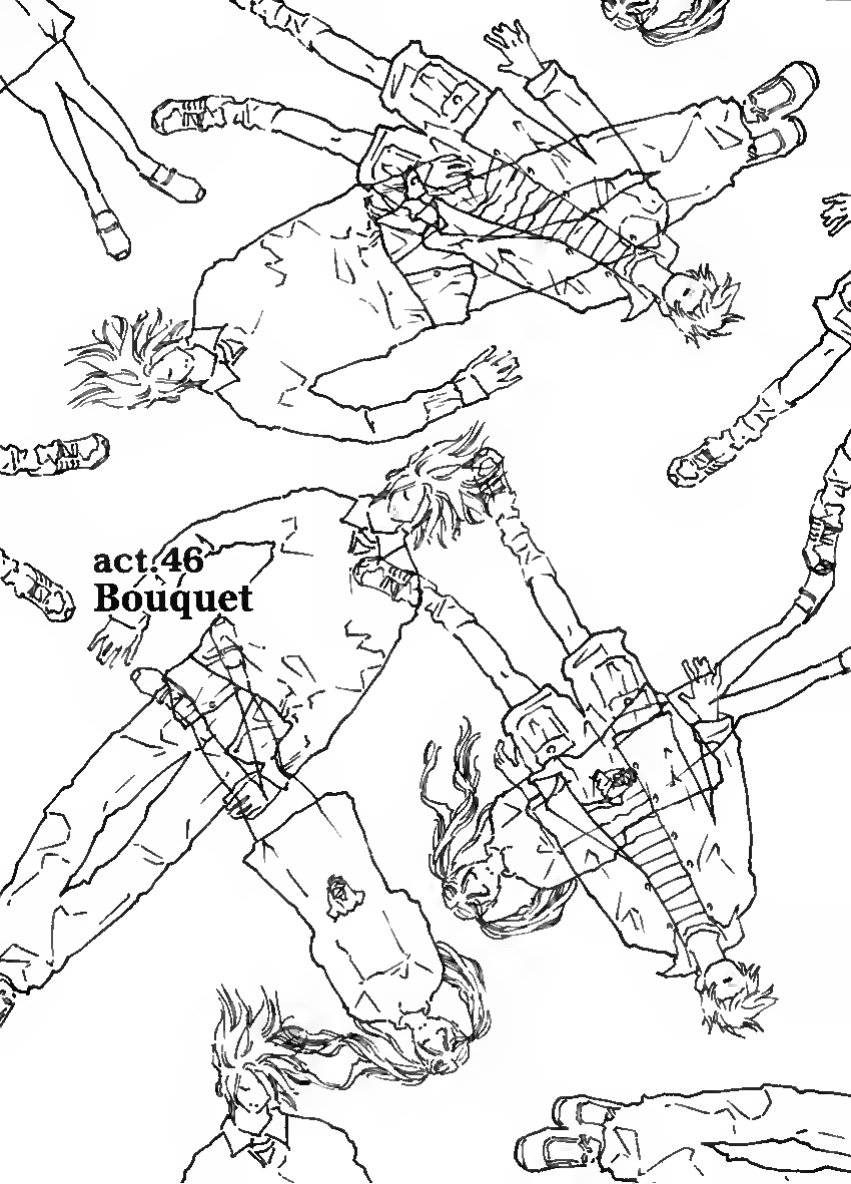
JUJUBIX

EDITOR:

JUJUBIX

PROOFING & QC:

THE_MIGHTY_HIGHLORD & PINKKITTY



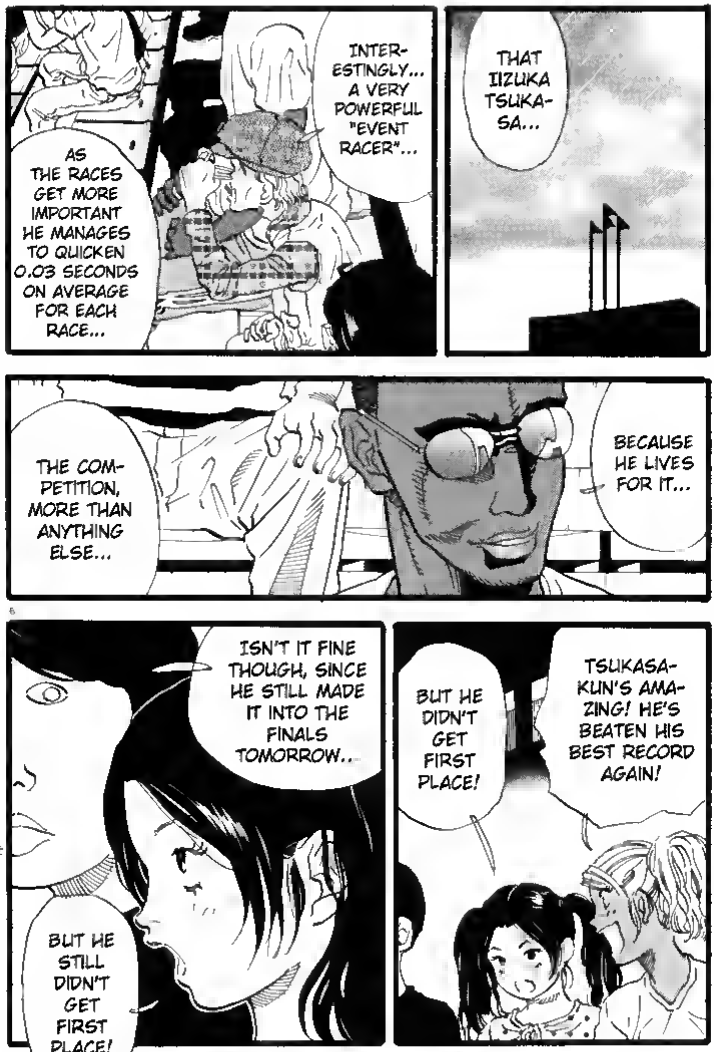
act.46
Bouquet

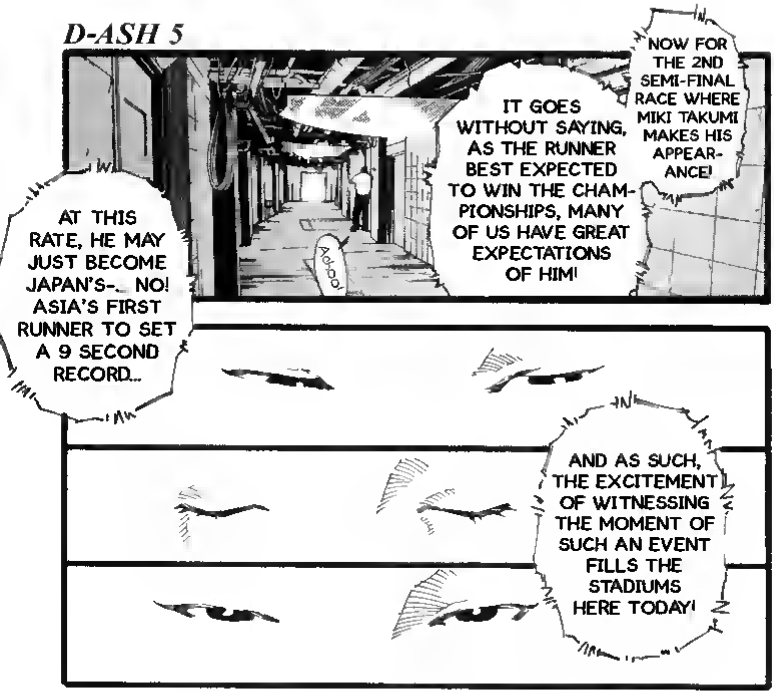
WEL-COME TO DAY 2!
AT 1:30 TODAY, THE MEN'S 100M SEMI-FINALS WILL BE TAKING PLACE IN THE NATIONAL STADIUM!
2
A TOTAL OF 8 WILL BE SELECTED, INCLUDING THE TOP TWO RUNNERS OF EACH RACE, ALONG WITH THE TWO FASTEST RUNNERS OF THE REMAINING LOT, TO COMPETE FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP TOMORROW!
29
BANG!
THE WINNERS OF THE QUARTER-FINALS HAVE BEEN SPLIT INTO THREE GROUPS AND WILL RACE TO GAIN ENTRY INTO THE FINAL RACE.
THIS IS THE LAST HURDLE BEFORE THE FINAL RACE TO DECIDE THE "FASTEST MAN IN JAPAN". THE SEMI-FINALS DECIDING THE MANY FATES OF THESE RACERS...
SHALL SOON BEGIN!

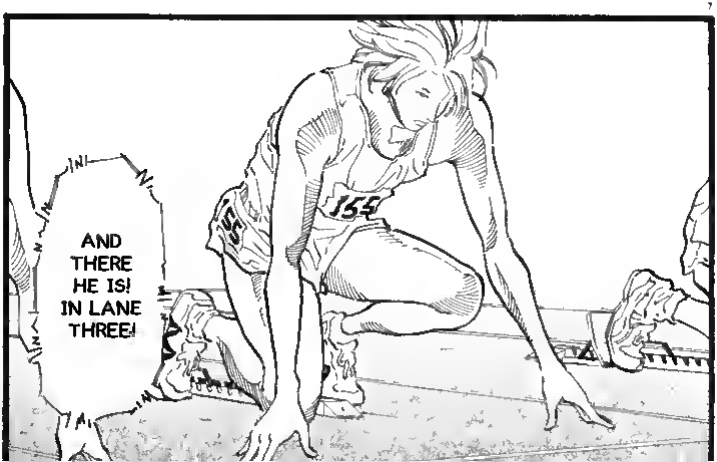
<WAAAAH>
<OOOOH>
HEY! WHAT'S YOUR BEST TIME?
10.13!
BUT I'M DEFINITELY GETTING LOWER THAN 10.1 IN THIS RACE!
IT'S MY WIN THEN!
WHAT?
<BANG!>

Shut!
Hmph!

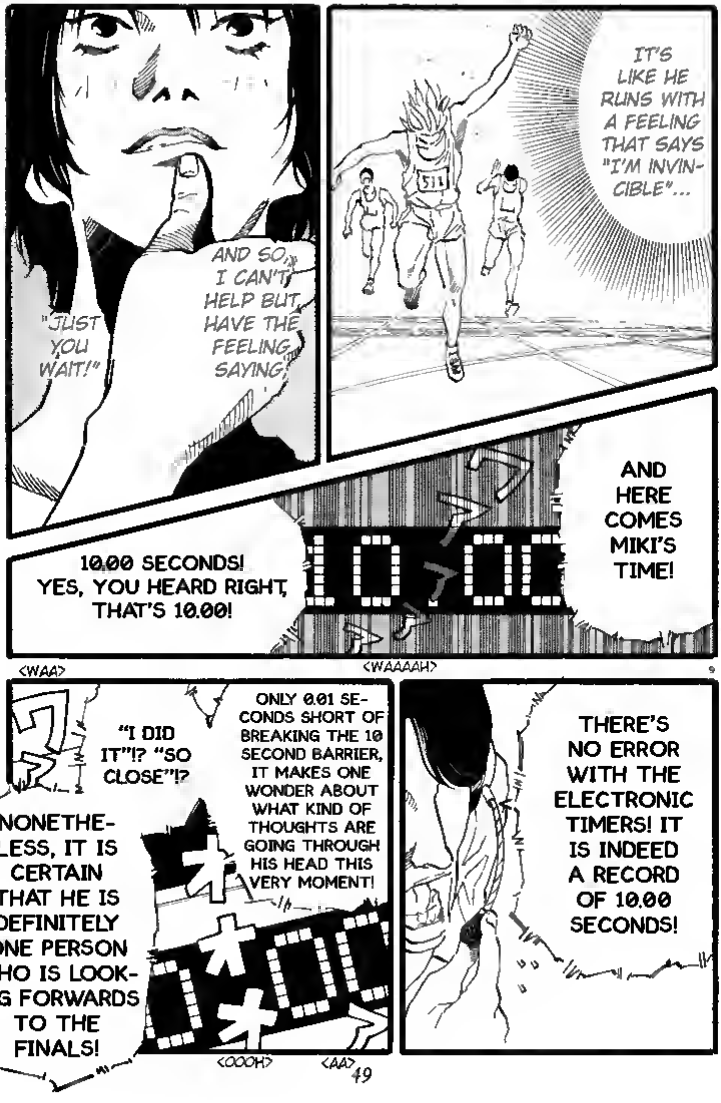
I LOST!!
ズン
<ZAI>
SEIKO
10.08
IN 1ST PLACE! IT'S HAKATA UNIVER-SITY'S KUMADA MINORU!
10.08 SECONDS! 10.08 WAS HIS TIME!
TO MUCH REGRET, LAST YEAR'S RUNNER-UP IIZUKA ENDS 2ND PLACE IN THIS RUN.
THE KYUSHU REPRESENTATIVE, KUMADA MINORU DID NOT STAND OUT MUCH LAST YEAR, BUT THIS YEAR, HE IS PROVING TO BE A FEARSOME CONTENDER!
5
AN AMAZING RACE INDEED FOR THE FIRST SEMI-FINAL!
OH MY! AN IMPRESSIVE 1009 SECONDS! BOTH THE 1ST AND 2ND PLACE RUNNERS HAVE MADE IT UNDER 10.1!
10.09
AND HIS TIME WAS ..!


AS THE RACES GET MORE IMPORTANT HE MANAGES TO QUICKEN 0.03 SECONDS ON AVERAGE FOR EACH RACE...
INTER-ESTINGLY... A VERY POWERFUL "EVENT RACER"...
THAT IIZUKA TSUKA-SA...
THE COM-PETITION, MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE...
BECAUSE HE LIVES FOR IT...
6
ISN'T IT FINE THOUGH, SINCE HE STILL MADE IT INTO THE FINALS TOMORROW..
BUT HE STILL DIDN'T GET FIRST PLACE!
Asking for a lot aren't you.
BUT HE DIDN'T GET FIRST PLACE!
TSUKASA-KUN'S AMA-ZING! HE'S BEATEN HIS BEST RECORD AGAIN!

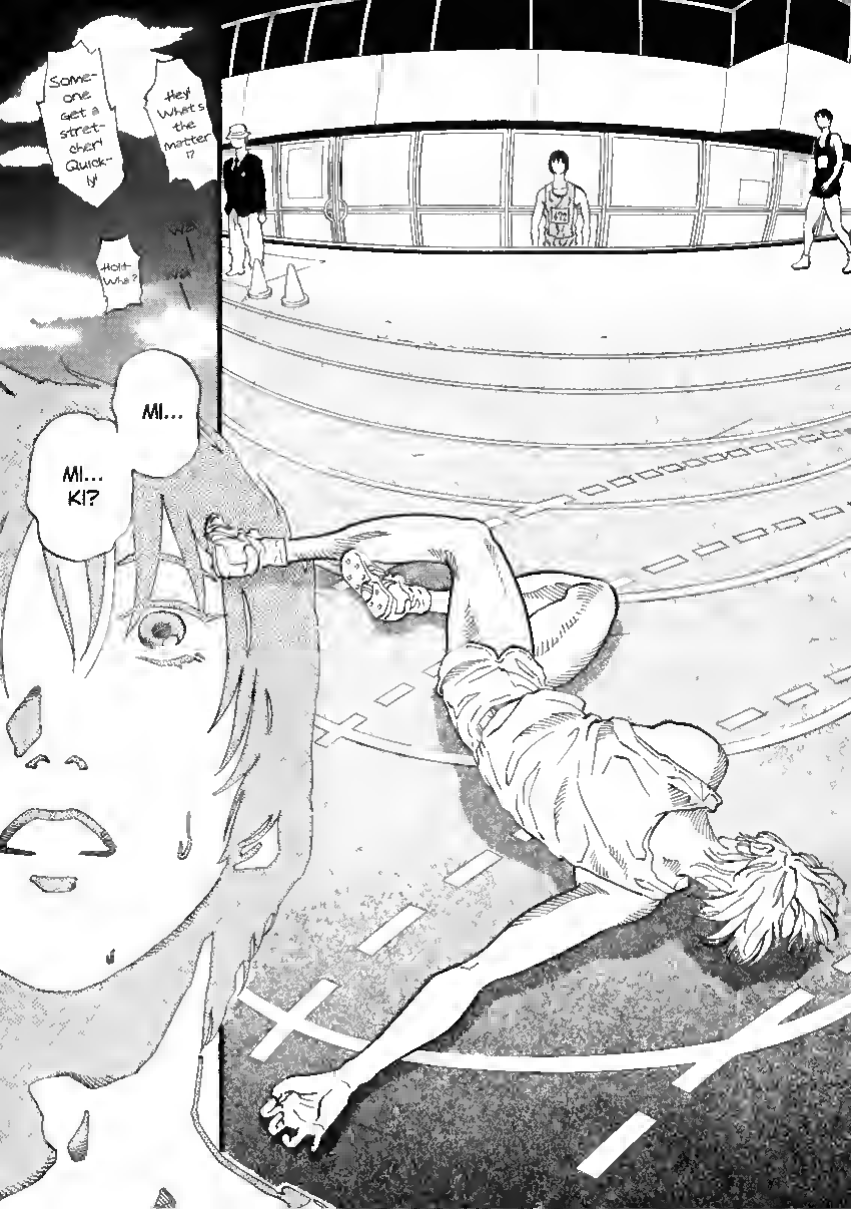

NOW FOR THE 2ND SEMI-FINAL RACE WHERE MIKI TAKUMI MAKES HIS APPEAR-ANCE!
IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING, AS THE RUNNER BEST EXPECTED TO WIN THE CHAM-PIONSHIPS, MANY OF US HAVE GREAT EXPECTATIONS OF HIM!
Ashiro
AT THIS RATE, HE MAY JUST BECOME JAPAN'S-... NO! ASIA'S FIRST RUNNER TO SET A 9 SECOND RECORD...
AND AS SUCH, THE EXCITEMENT OF WITNESSING THE MOMENT OF SUCH AN EVENT FILLS THE STADIUMS HERE TODAY!

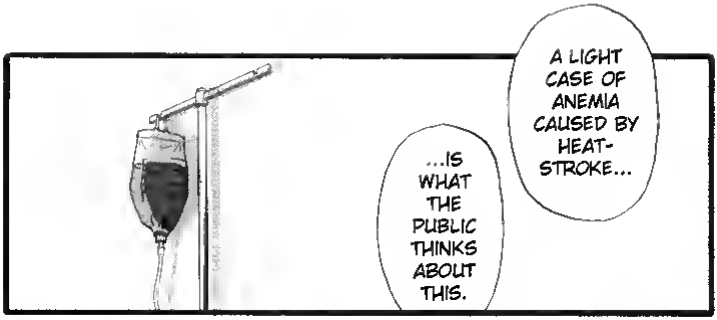

AND THERE HE IS! IN LANE THREE!
154

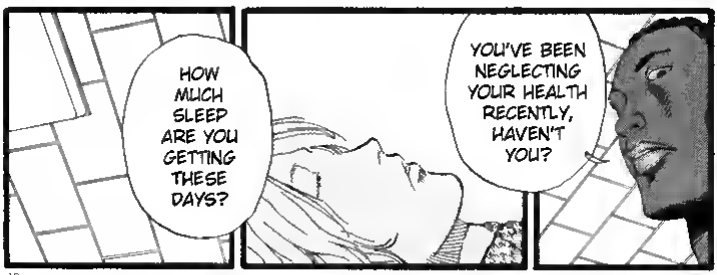
<JUJU'S NOTE: AS PREVIOUSLY EXPLAINED, SAE (さえ) AND THE JAPANESE PRONOUNCIATION FOR THREE "SAN" (さん)... BOTH HAVE "SA" (さ). HOWEVER, IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE TO PRONOUNCE THE JAPANESE WORD FOR THREE AS "MI" (み)... AND MIKI (みき) ALSO HAS THIS "MI" (み).>


"JUST YOU WAIT!"
AND SO, I CAN'T HELP BUT HAVE THE FEELING, SAYING,
IT'S LIKE HE RUNS WITH A FEELING THAT SAYS "I'M INVINCIBLE"...
AND HERE COMES MIKI'S TIME!
10.00 SECONDS! YES, YOU HEARD RIGHT, THAT'S 10.00!
<WAA>
<WAAAAH>
"I DID IT"!? "SO CLOSE"!?
ONLY 0.01 SECONDS SHORT OF BREAKING THE 10 SECOND BARRIER, IT MAKES ONE WONDER ABOUT WHAT KIND OF THOUGHTS ARE GOING THROUGH HIS HEAD THIS VERY MOMENT!
NONETHELESS, IT IS CERTAIN THAT HE IS DEFINITELY ONE PERSON WHO IS LOOKING FORWARDS TO THE FINALS!
<OOOH>
<AA>
THERE'S NO ERROR WITH THE ELECTRONIC TIMERS! IT IS INDEED A RECORD OF 10.00 SECONDS!

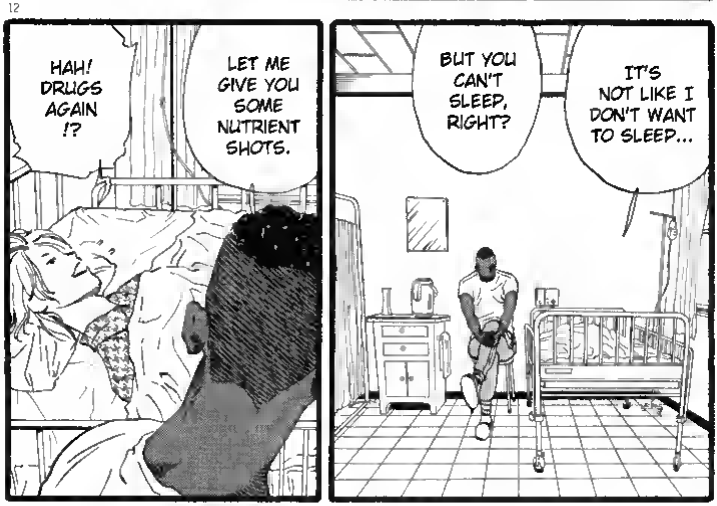
ワー ワー ワー
<WAA X3>
ミー キー ミー
<MI-KI X2.5>


Some-one get a stret-cher! Quick-ly
Hey! What's the matter!?
Wa
Wa
Hah-Wha?
MI...
MI... KI?


A LIGHT CASE OF ANEMIA CAUSED BY HEAT-STROKE...
...IS WHAT THE PUBLIC THINKS ABOUT THIS.

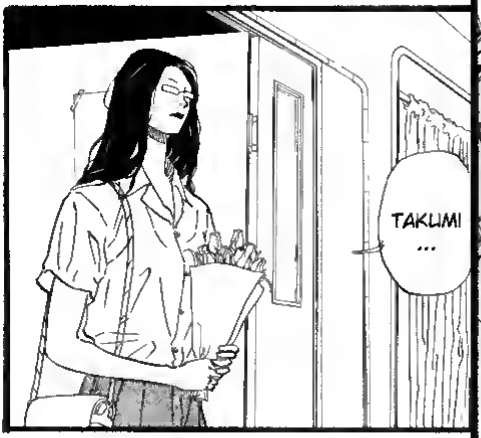

HOW MUCH SLEEP ARE YOU GETTING THESE DAYS?
YOU'VE BEEN NEGLECTING YOUR HEALTH RECENTLY, HAVEN'T YOU?

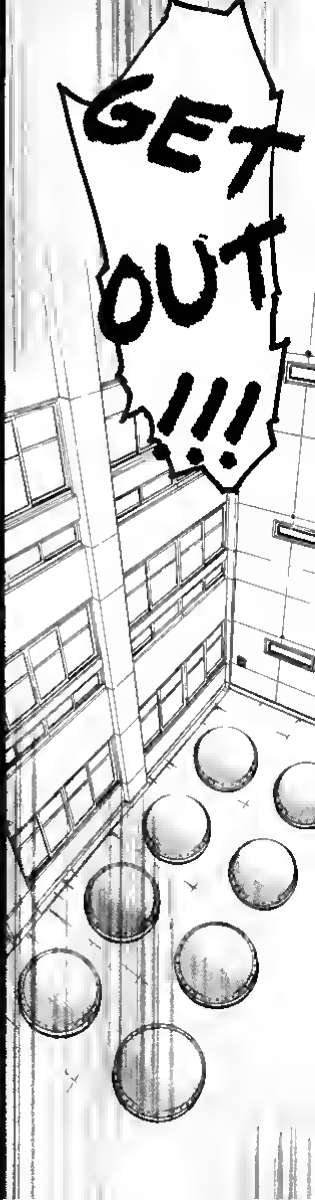
12

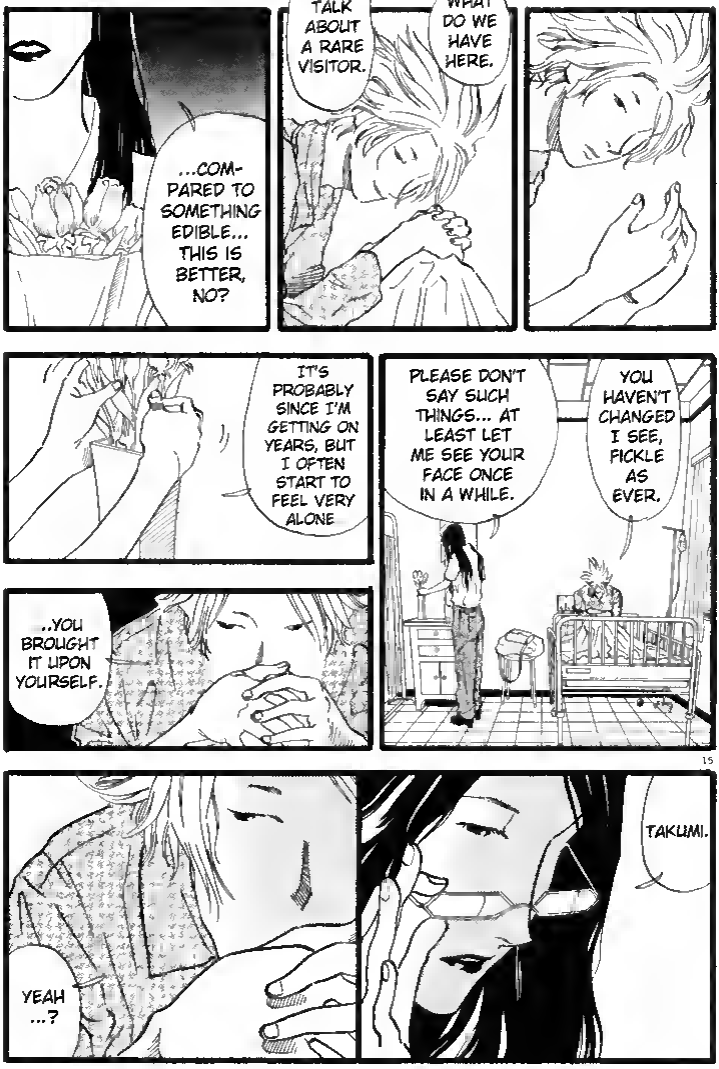

HAH! DRUGS AGAIN !?
LET ME GIVE YOU SOME NUTRIENT SHOTS.
BUT YOU CAN'T SLEEP, RIGHT?
IT'S NOT LIKE I DON'T WANT TO SLEEP...

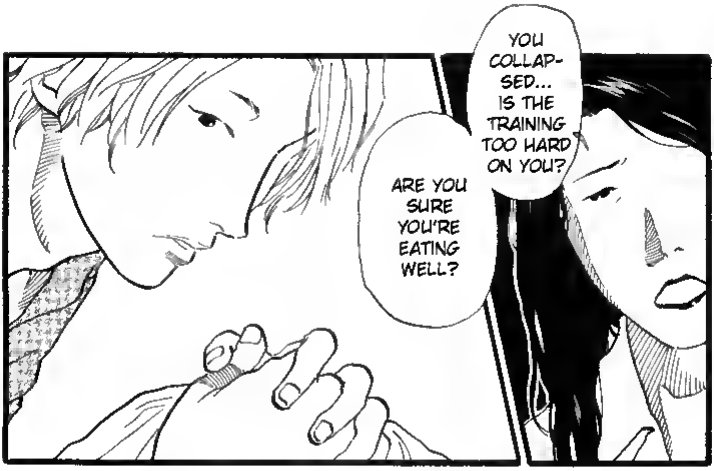
KE-K
YOU WISHED FOR THIS.
YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT BEST! ALL THAT'S LEFT OF ME IS-
CAN YOU STILL RUN LIKE THIS?
<GASHI> 13
FWAP!
duck!
SO WHAT DO YOU PLAN ON DOING FOR TOMOR-ROW'S RACE?
EVEN IF YOU QUIT NOW, YOUR 10 SECOND RECORD IS ALREADY A "LEGEND".
IT WAS MY MISTAKE FOR NOT CONSIDERING THE EFFECTS ON DIFFERENT INDI-VIDUALS, BUT IT IS ALSO YOUR FAULT DUE TO YOUR LACK OF SELF-CONTROL.
ACCORDING TO MY CALCULATIONS, YOUR LIFE SPAN AS A SPRINTER SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN REDUCED THIS QUICKLY.

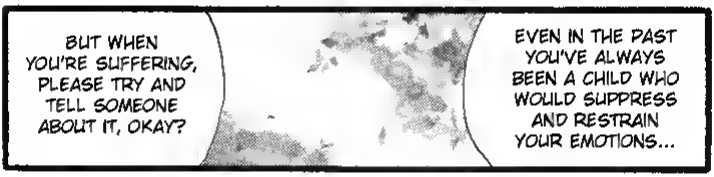
14

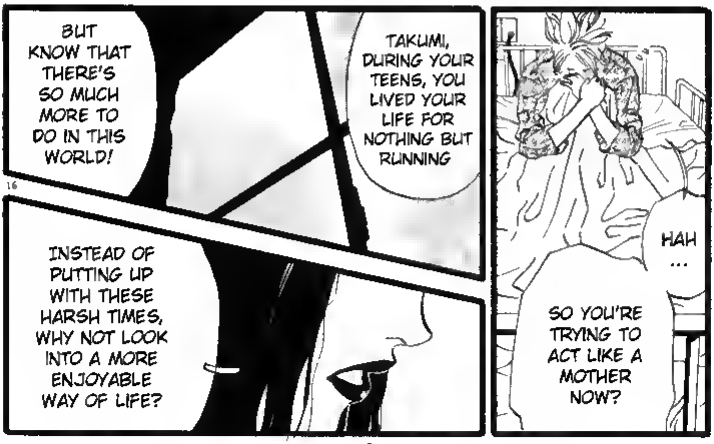





...COMPARED TO SOMETHING EDIBLE... THIS IS BETTER, NO?
TALK ABOUT A RARE VISITOR.
WHAT DO WE HAVE HERE.
IT'S PROBABLY SINCE I'M GETTING ON YEARS, BUT I OFTEN START TO FEEL VERY ALONE
PLEASE DON'T SAY SUCH THINGS... AT LEAST LET ME SEE YOUR FACE ONCE IN A WHILE.
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED I SEE, FICKLE AS EVER.
..YOU BROUGHT IT UPON YOURSELF..
15
YEAH ...?
TAKUMI.


ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE EATING WELL?
YOU COLLAPSED... IS THE TRAINING TOO HARD ON YOU?


BUT WHEN YOU'RE SUFFERING, PLEASE TRY AND TELL SOMEONE ABOUT IT, OKAY?
EVEN IN THE PAST YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN A CHILD WHO WOULD SUPPRESS AND RESTRAIN YOUR EMOTIONS...


BUT KNOW THAT THERE'S SO MUCH MORE TO DO IN THIS WORLD!
TAKUMI, DURING YOUR TEENS, YOU LIVED YOUR LIFE FOR NOTHING BUT RUNNING
INSTEAD OF PUTTING UP WITH THESE HARSH TIMES, WHY NOT LOOK INTO A MORE ENJOYABLE WAY OF LIFE?
HAH ...
SO YOU'RE TRYING TO ACT LIKE A MOTHER NOW?

.....
THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO SAY SUCH THINGS.
SPRING, SUMMER, AUTUMN, WINTER...
RUNNING DAY AFTER DAY...
THAT'S ENOUGH FOR ME.
THERE'S NOTHING MORE TO IT... NOTHING LESS.

AND OF COURSE I'M GOING TO WIN TOMORROW!
SPRING, SUMMER, AUTUMN, WINTER... RUNNING DAY AFTER DAY...
THAT'S ENOUGH FOR ME...
THERE'S NOTHING MORE TO IT, NOTHING LESS...
BUT NOW...
I'VE GOT NOTHING LEFT BUT TO RUN!

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JUJU: THIS IS GETTING TIRING.. AND I DISCOVERED THAT I PREFER EDITING WITH SCRIPTS OVER TRANSLATING MYSELF... AND FOR EDITING, I SEEM TO PREFER THE TEXTSETTING AND TWEAKING OVER THE GRAPHICAL ASPECTS... SO WHAT DOES THAT LEAVE ME AS.. A PROOFER!? BUT I CAN'T PROOF... GOD KNOWS THE MISTAKES THAT I MAKE DOING THESE CHAPTERS IN A FRENZIED RUSH... *SIGH*... I'M JUST COMPLANING NOW, AIN'T I? RIGHT... ON TO THE NEXT CHAPTER.

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TRANSLATOR:

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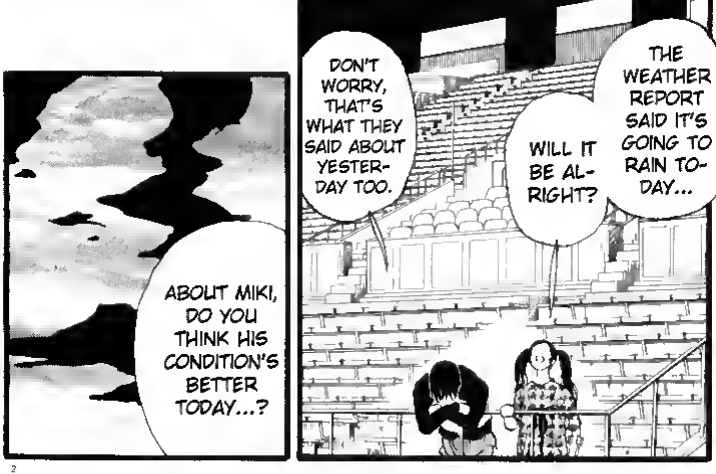
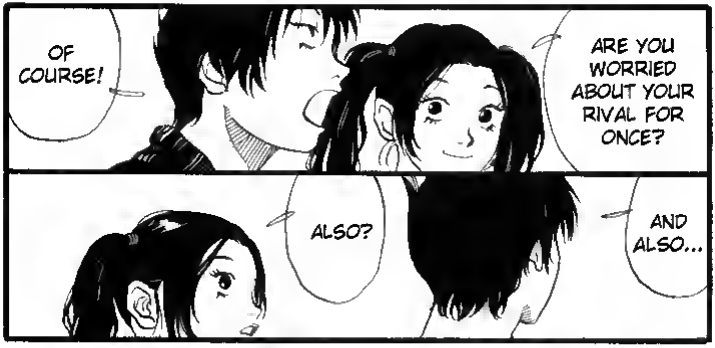
PROOFING & QC:

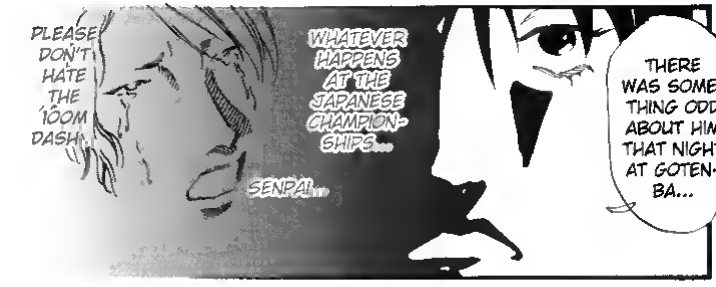
THE_MIGHTY_HIGHLORD & PINKKITTY

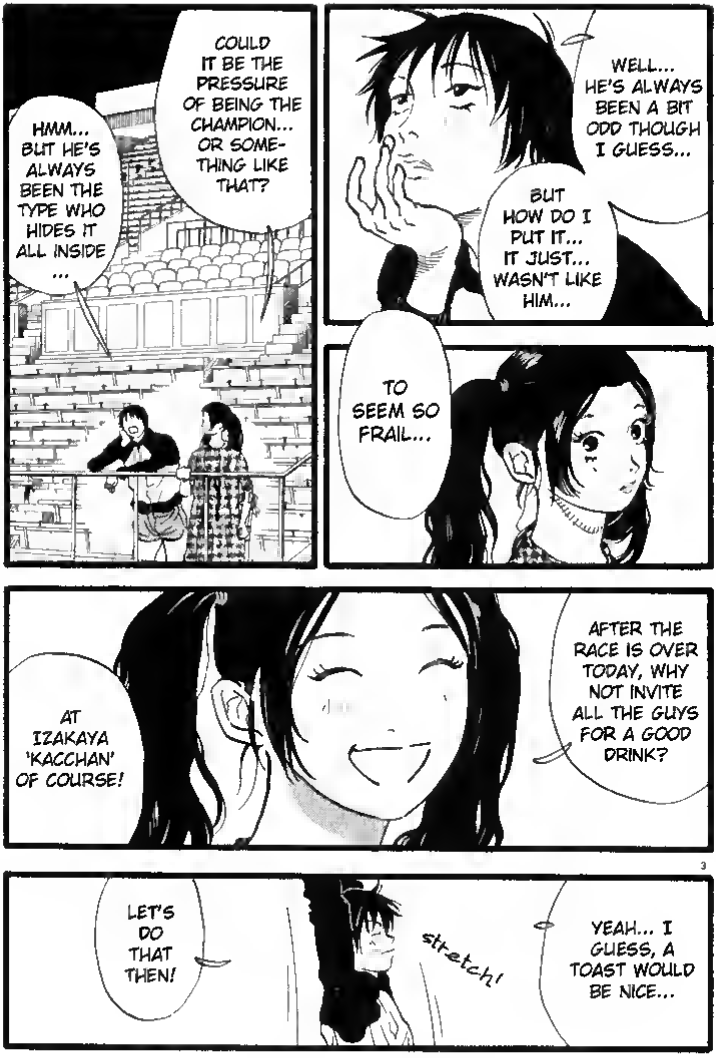
act.47
Begin


ABOUT MIKI, DO YOU THINK HIS CONDITION'S BETTER TODAY...?
DON'T WORRY, THAT'S WHAT THEY SAID ABOUT YESTERDAY TOO.
WILL IT BE ALRIGHT?
THE WEATHER REPORT SAID IT'S GOING TO RAIN TODAY...

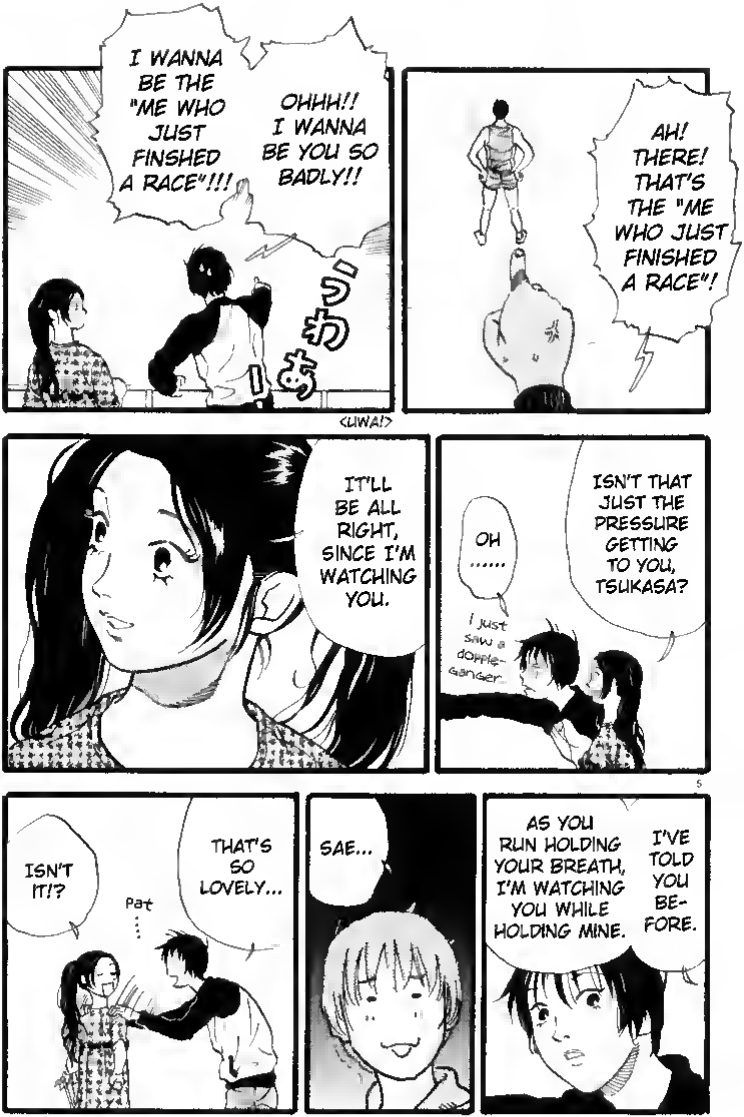
2


OF COURSE!
ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT YOUR RIVAL FOR ONCE?
ALSO?
AND ALSO...


PLEASE DON'T HATE THE 100M DASH.
WHATEVER HAPPENS AT THE JAPANESE CHAMPIONSHIPS...
SENPAI...
THERE WAS SOMETHING ODD ABOUT HIM THAT NIGHT AT GOTENBA...

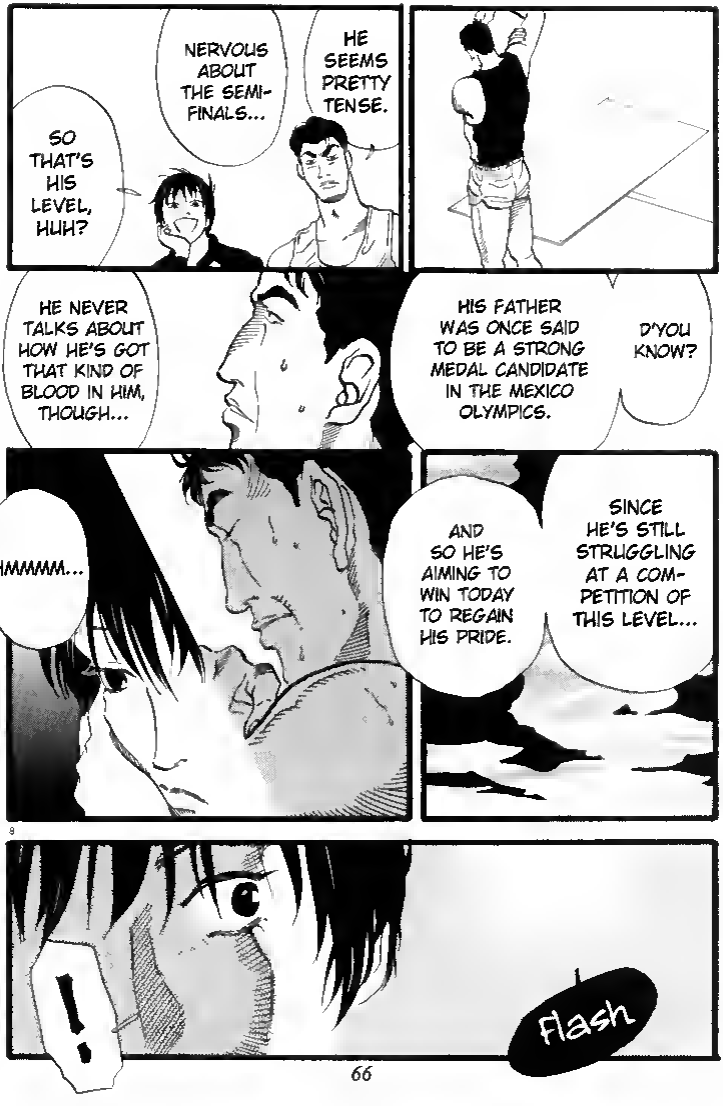

COULD IT BE THE PRESSURE OF BEING THE CHAMPION... OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
HMM... BUT HE'S ALWAYS BEEN THE TYPE WHO HIDES IT ALL INSIDE...
WELL... HE'S ALWAYS BEEN A BIT ODD THOUGH I GUESS...
BUT HOW DO I PUT IT... IT JUST... WASN'T LIKE HIM...
TO SEEM SO FRAIL...
AFTER THE RACE IS OVER TODAY, WHY NOT INVITE ALL THE GUYS FOR A GOOD DRINK?
AT IZAKAYA 'KACCHAN' OF COURSE!
3
LET'S DO THAT THEN!
stretch!
YEAH... I GUESS, A TOAST WOULD BE NICE...

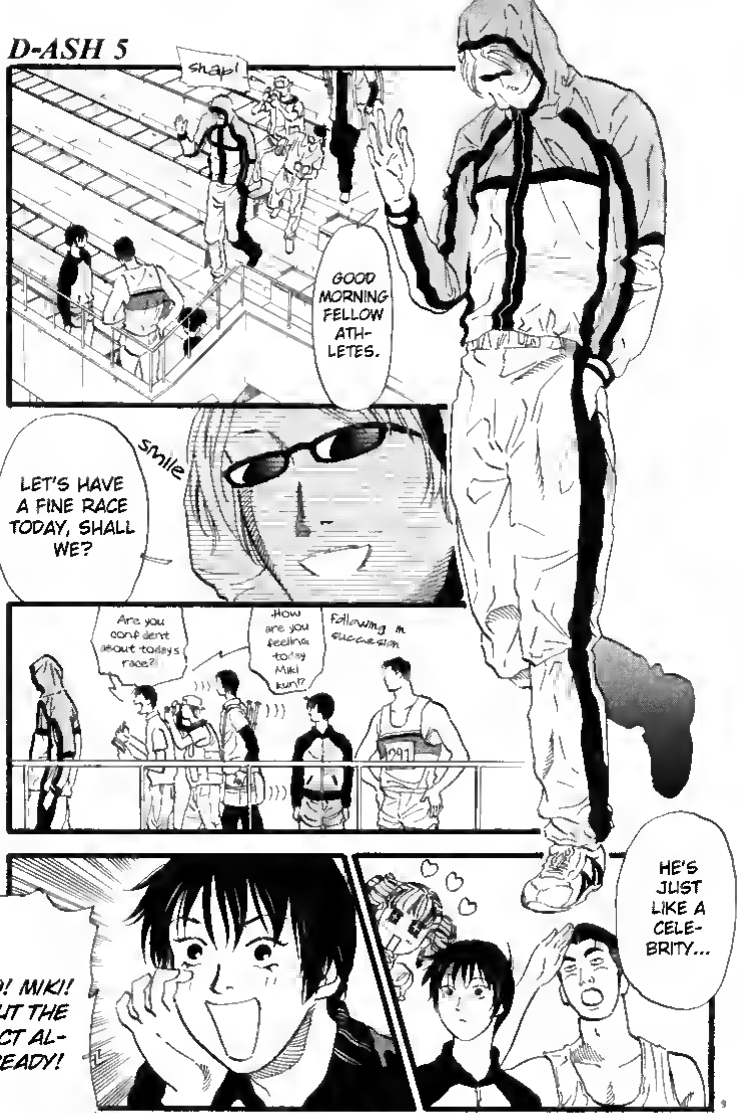
<GASHI!?
AFTER THIS IS ALL OVER.....
GOD DAMN IT!!
WHY WON'T THIS END AL-READY !!?
<GAKU X3>
AHHH!! I DON'T CARE HOW! JUST END THIS ALREADY!


I WANNA BE THE "ME WHO JUST FINSHED A RACE"!!!
OHHH!! I WANNA BE YOU SO BADLY!!
ぎゅっ!
AH! THERE! THAT'S THE "ME WHO JUST FINISHED A RACE"!
<UWA!>
IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT, SINCE I'M WATCHING YOU.
ISN'T THAT JUST THE PRESSURE GETTING TO YOU, TSUKASA?
OH .....
I just saw a doppelgänger.
5
ISN'T IT!?
Pat
THAT'S SO LOVELY...
SAE...
AS YOU RUN HOLDING YOUR BREATH, I'M WATCHING YOU WHILE HOLDING MINE.
I'VE TOLD YOU BE-FORE.

CAN I?
REALLY?
IT'S OKAY!
DO IT!
I WANNA SQUEEZE YOU, BUT I'M AFRAID OTHERS MAY BE WATCHING...
Do your best.. Do your best
"KAY!"
"DO YOUR BEST!"
Squeeze!
Hee Hee Hee Hee Hee
291
I~ SAW~ THAT~!

OH!
ARE THESE YOUR SIBLINGS, KUMADA?
YEAH. THEY CAME FROM KYUSHU TO WATCH ME WIN TODAY!
MAKING OUT ON THE SACRED RACING GROUNDS?
HEH HEH ...
MY DAD'S THE BOSS OF A SMALL FACTORY.
NO, MY PARENTS ARE STILL AROUND.
HUH!? COULD IT BE THAT YOU'RE TAKING CARE OF THEM BY YOURSELF?
AH.
IT'S NAKA-BAYASHI-SAN.
GEEZ! WHY IS IT THAT IN MANGA, GUYS FROM KYUSHU ALWAYS HAVE TO BRING ALONG LITTLE SISTERS AND BROTHERS ...?
NAKABA-YASHI-SAN! GOOD MOR-NING!


HE SEEMS PRETTY TENSE.
NERVOUS ABOUT THE SEMI-FINALS...
SO THAT'S HIS LEVEL, HUH?
D'YOU KNOW?
HIS FATHER WAS ONCE SAID TO BE A STRONG MEDAL CANDIDATE IN THE MEXICO OLYMPICS.
HE NEVER TALKS ABOUT HOW HE'S GOT THAT KIND OF BLOOD IN HIM, THOUGH...
SINCE HE'S STILL STRUGGLING AT A COM-PETITION OF THIS LEVEL...
AND SO HE'S AIMING TO WIN TODAY TO REGAIN HIS PRIDE.
HMMMM...
!
Flash

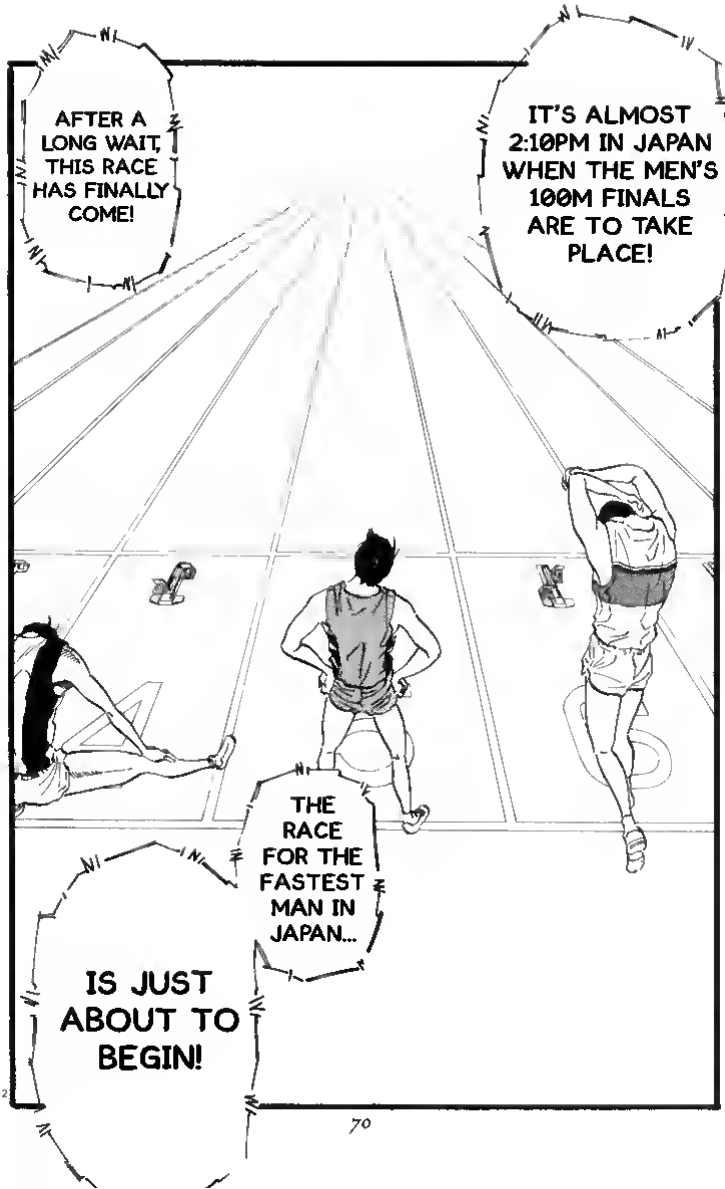

sharp!
GOOD MORNING FELLOW ATH-LETES.
smile
LET'S HAVE A FINE RACE TODAY, SHALL WE?
Are you cont dent about todays race?!
How are you feeling today Miki kun!?
Following in succession
1091
HE'S JUST LIKE A CELE-BRITY...
YO! MIKI! CUT THE ACT AL-READY!

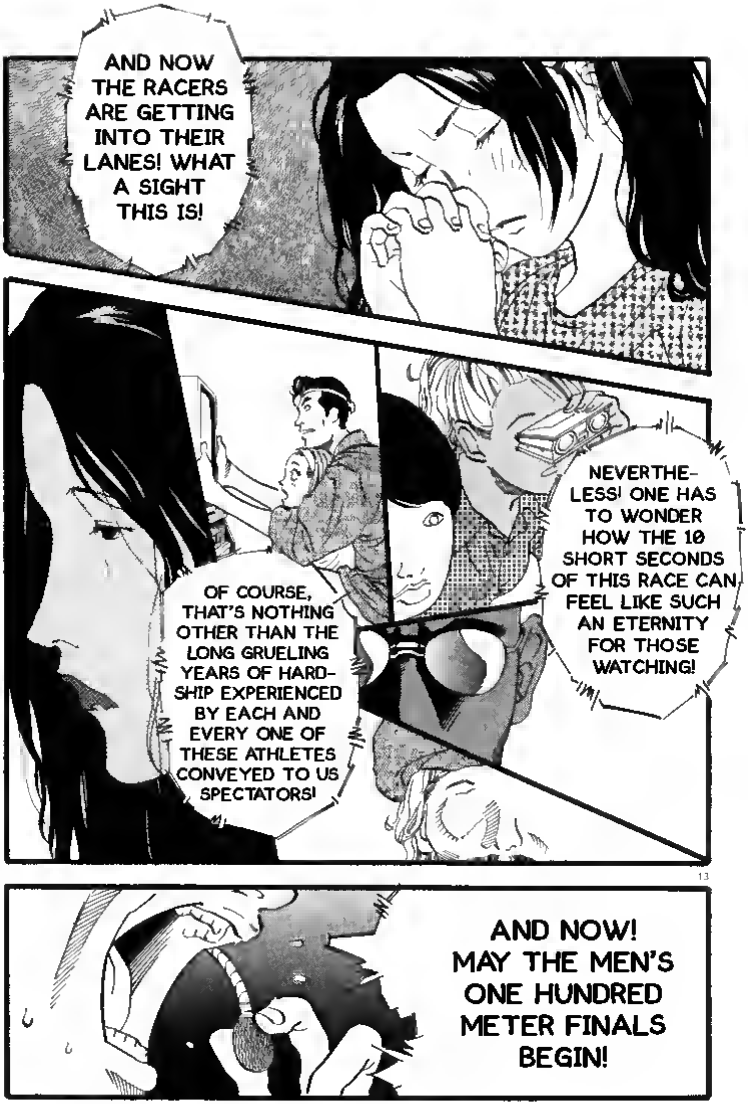
YEAH, AND WHEN HE WAS DRUNK HE EVEN KIS-
SERI-OUS-LY!?
REMEMBER HOW YOU WERE TRYING TO GET ME TO PAMPER YOU WHEN YOU GOT DRUNK LAST TIME!?
<RUNNING>
...ANY-WAY...
cough
IT'S ALMOST TIME TO BEGIN!

<JUJU'S NOTES: "GAKITSUKA" (ガキツカ) IS SHORT FOR "DOWNTOWN NO GAKI NO TSUKAI YA ARAHENDE!!" (ダウンタウンのガキの使いやあらへんで!!) , LET'S JUST SAY IT'S A LONG RUNNING POPULAR JAPANESE COMEDY SHOW >

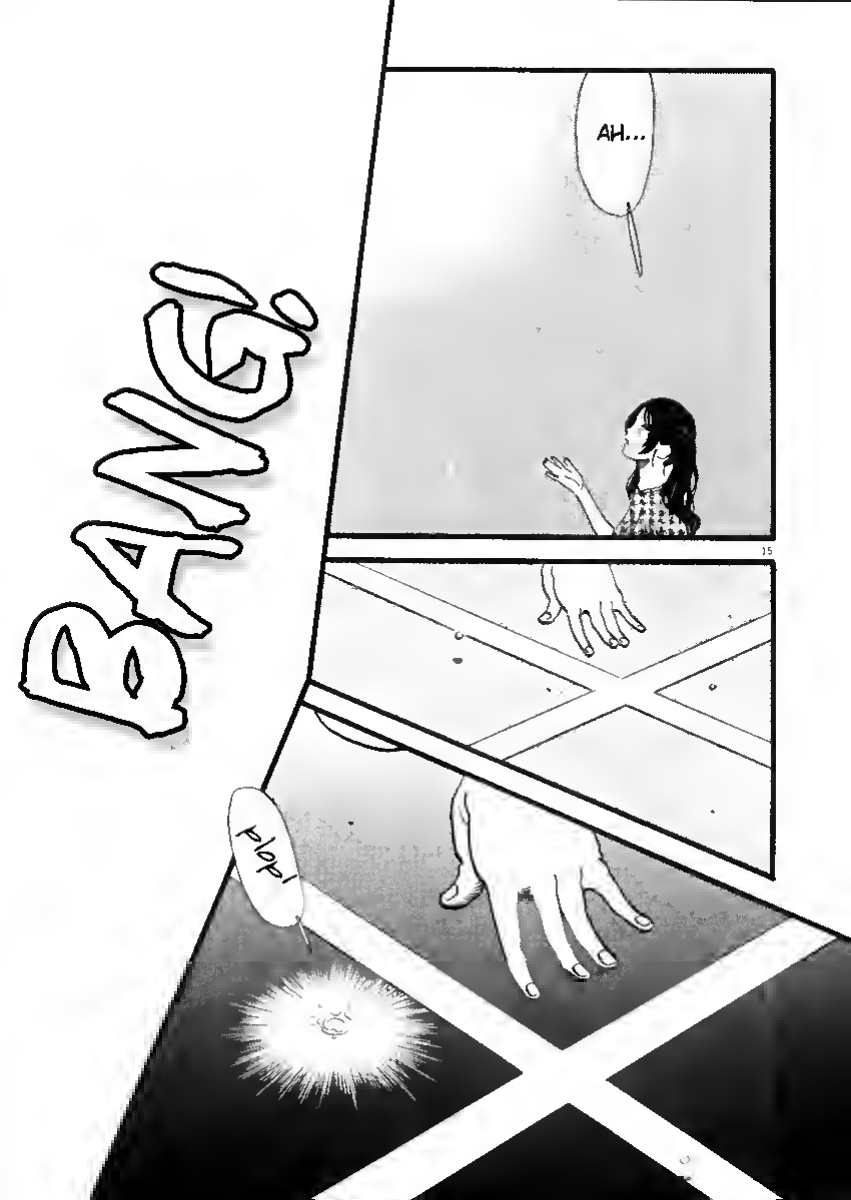
OH STOP COMPLAINING! THIS IS THE MOMENT THAT TSUKASA'S GOING TO BREAK THE 10 SECOND BARRIER!
shouting
clack clack
There are other tapes here! Mou~!
HEY STOP IT! THAT TAPE HAS "GAKI-TSUKA" ON IT!
居酒屋 かっちゃん
<BANG CRASH>
<IZAKAYA KACCHAN>
What the hell? Aren't these battles supposed to last forever?
more shouting
Gimme the remote! Quickly!
wahn wahn
NOW~

11


AFTER A LONG WAIT, THIS RACE HAS FINALLY COME!
IT'S ALMOST 2:10PM IN JAPAN WHEN THE MEN'S 100M FINALS ARE TO TAKE PLACE!
THE RACE FOR THE FASTEST MAN IN JAPAN...
IS JUST ABOUT TO BEGIN!


AND NOW THE RACERS ARE GETTING INTO THEIR LANES! WHAT A SIGHT THIS IS!
NEVERTHE-LESS! ONE HAS TO WONDER HOW THE 10 SHORT SECONDS OF THIS RACE CAN FEEL LIKE SUCH AN ETERNITY FOR THOSE WATCHING!
OF COURSE, THAT'S NOTHING OTHER THAN THE LONG GRUELING YEARS OF HARD-SHIP EXPERIENCED BY EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THESE ATHLETES CONVEYED TO US SPECTATORS!
13
AND NOW! MAY THE MEN'S ONE HUNDRED METER FINALS BEGIN!

On your mark!
Get set!


BANG!
AH...
15
plop!

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JUJU: UNBEKNOWNST TO ME FROM PREVIOUS CHAPTERS, KUMADA HAS A HEAVY HEAVY ACCENT... I'M NOT BOTHERING WITH THAT :P ALSO, FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO WEREN'T AROUND DURING THE MEXICO OLYMPICS, IT TOOK PLACE IN THE GOOD OL' DAYS OF 1968... JUST TO CLARIFY, THIS MANGA TAKES PLACE IN 1997. FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS, THESE EDITS WERE MADE IN 2007 :3

RAW-PROVIDER:

PV82 & THOR-HAMMER

TRANSLATOR:

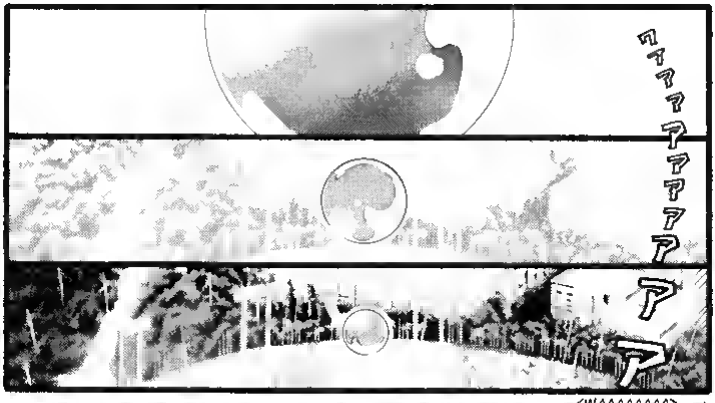
JUJUBIX

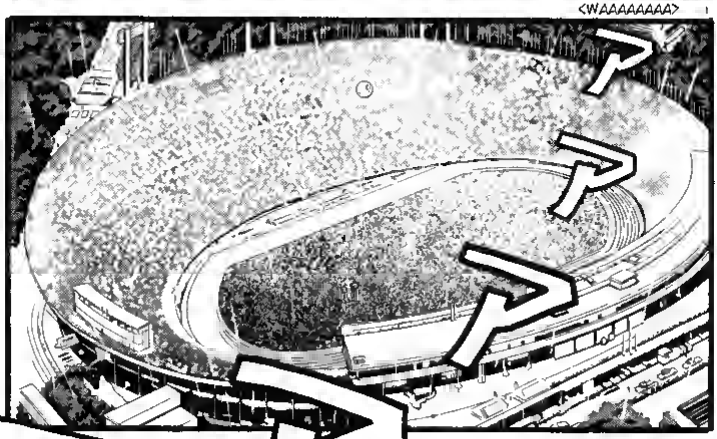
EDITOR:

JUJUBIX

PROOFING & QC:

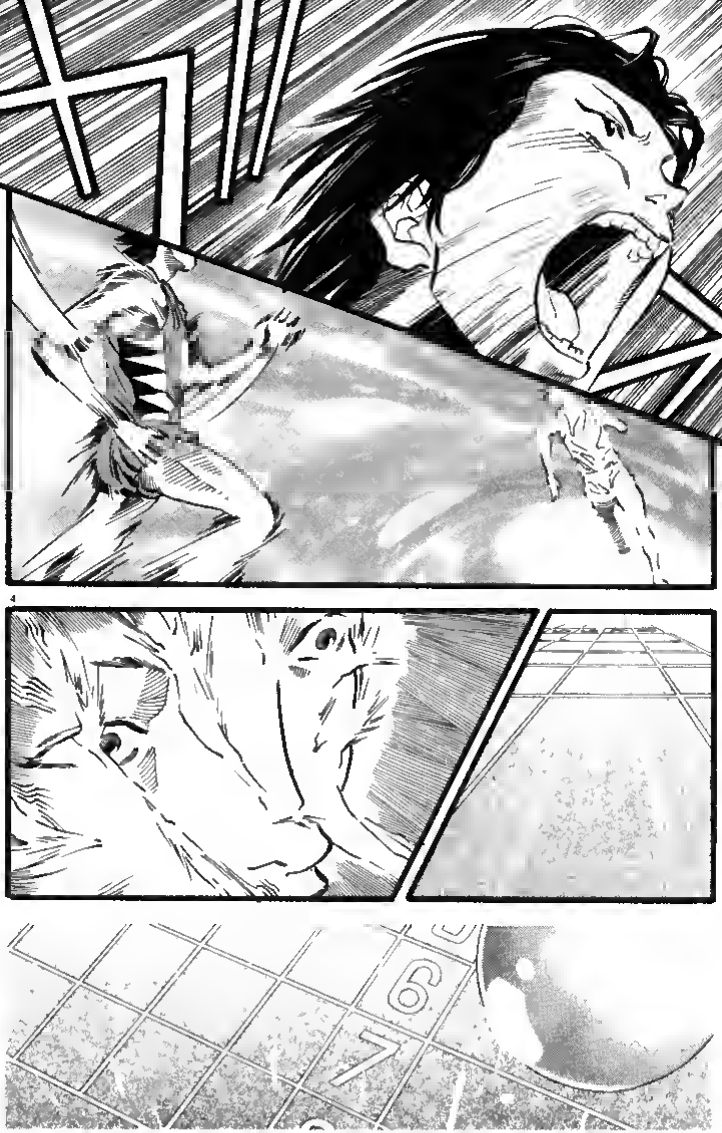
THE_MIGHTY_HIGHLORD & PINKKITTY

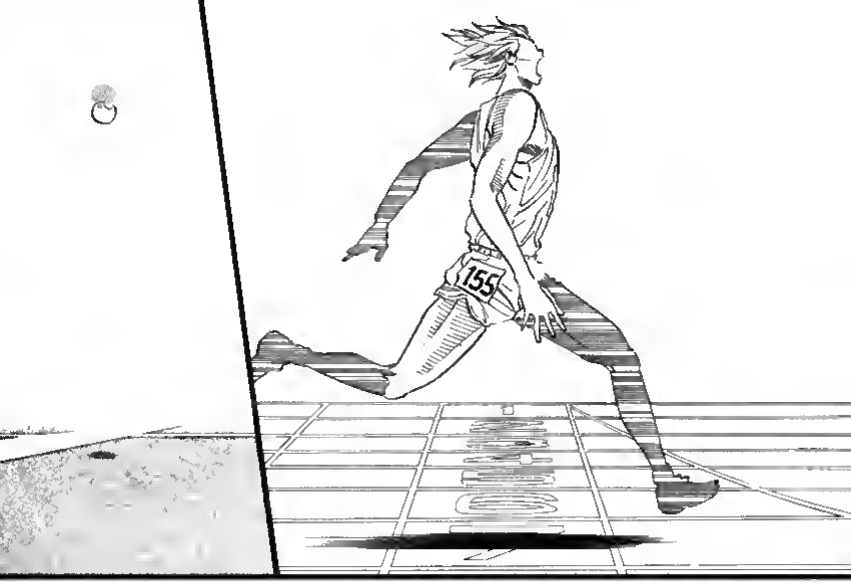




act.48 Cruel Adolescence

act.48
Cruel Adolescence

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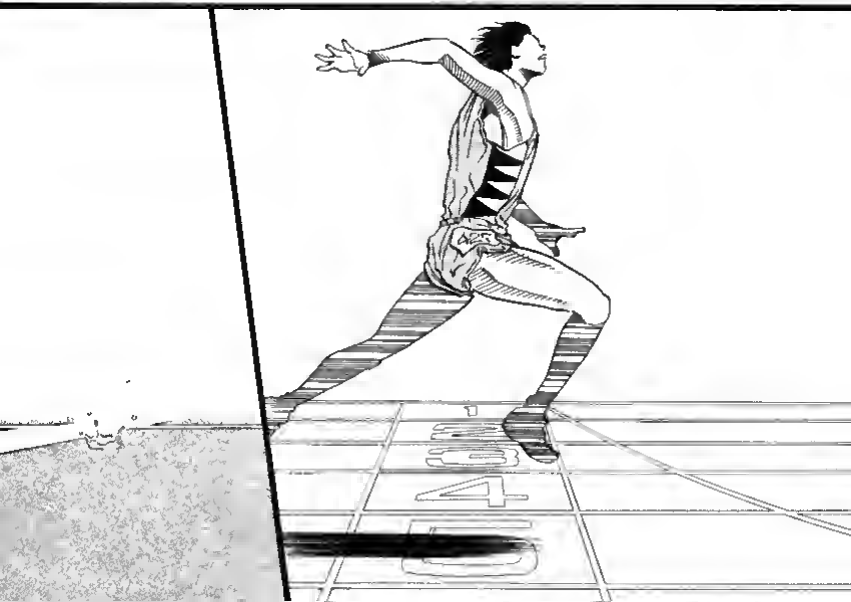
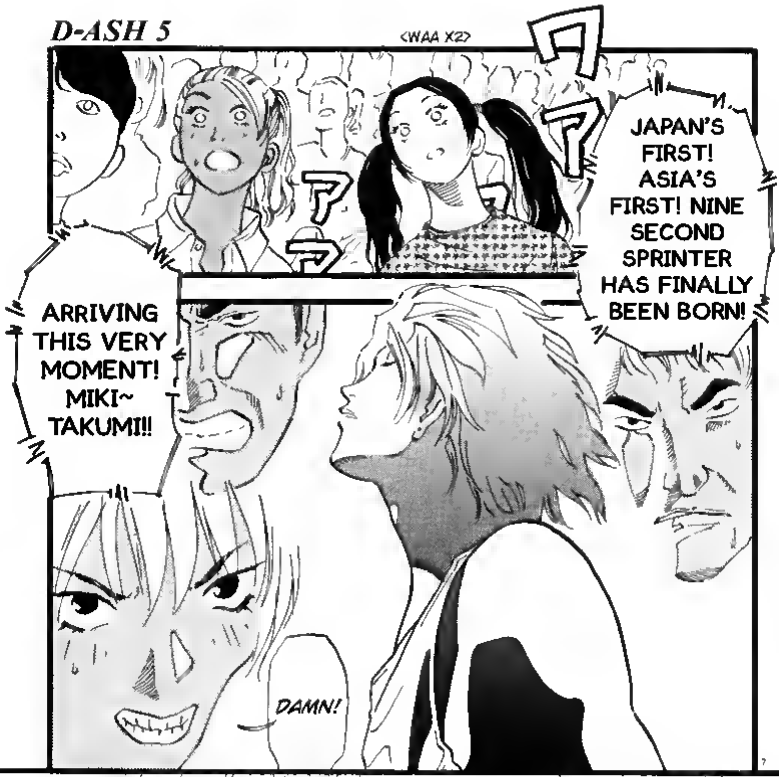


AND IT'S OVER !!!
HE'S DONE IT! MIKI TAKUMI! MIKI TAKUMI IN 1ST PLACE HAS DONE IT!
7-155. MIKI TAKU
9.92 SECONDS
9.92 SECONDS! NINE POINT NINE TWO! MIKI TAKUMI HAS GOTTEN 9.92 SECONDS!
<OHHHH>
7-155. MIKI TAKUMI
9.92 SECONDS
WITH A TAIL-WIND OF 1.5M/SEC, THIS IS A NEW OFFICIAL RECORD!
<AHHHH>


<WAA X2>
JAPAN'S FIRST! ASIA'S FIRST! NINE SECOND SPRINTER HAS FINALLY BEEN BORN!
ARRIVING THIS VERY MOMENT! MIKI~ TAKUMI!!
DAMN!

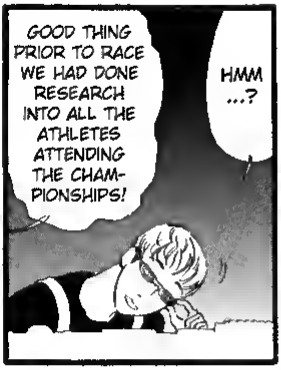
It's over.....

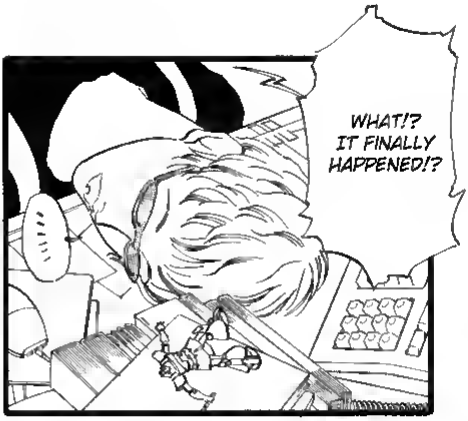
<WAA~ X4>
TRULY A SIGHT OF THE CEN-TURY!
ワー
ワー
ワー
WELL DONE! TRULY *TRULY* WELL DONE!
MIKI...
9.92 SECONDS! THAT'S NINE POINT NINE TWO!
ワアアア

Farewell...

155
Farewell,
...My precious seasons.
May we someday...
...Meet again.

AND HERE COMES IIZUKA TSUKASA'S TIME!
SEIKO
5.427.
SEIKO
10.05
IN SECOND PLACE... OH! THIS TOO IS A FEAT! 10.05 SECONDS! THAT'S 10.05!
YES!
NAKABAYASHI IN THIRD WITH 10.06! AND ALSO MAKING IT UNDER 10.1, KUMADA WITH 10.08 IN FOURTH!
12
WA WA WA
IT TRULY IS AMAZING!
WITHOUT A DOUBT! THIS IS ONE BREATHTAKING RACE THAT'LL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN IN THE HISTORY OF JAPANESE ATHLETICS!


GOOD THING PRIOR TO RACE WE HAD DONE RESEARCH INTO ALL THE ATHLETES ATTENDING THE CHAMPIONSHIPS!
HMM ...?


WHAT!? IT FINALLY HAPPENED!?

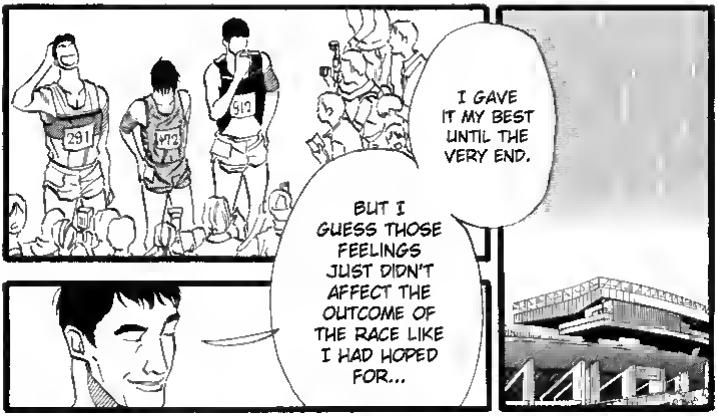
YOU FOOL! THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE SLEEPING!
MOH~ WHAT'S WITH THE RACKET!?

13

GOD BLESS YOU! MIKI-KUN!
THIS IS MY FIRST GREAT ACHIEVEMENT EVER SINCE I BECAME THE EDITOR OF THIS SMALL SPORTS PAPER.

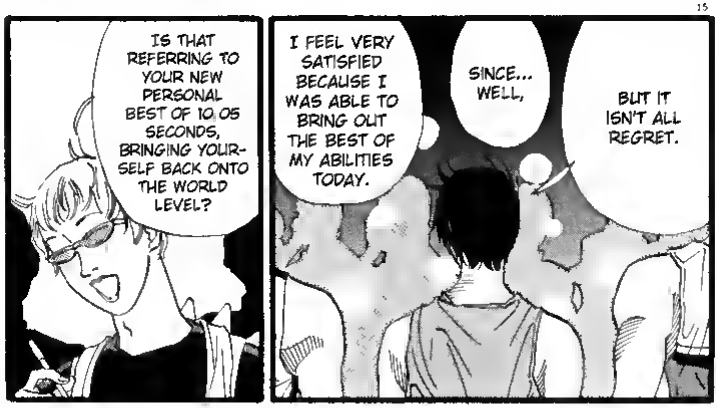
MIKI TAKUMI'S FINALLY MADE IT UNDER 10 SECONDS!
HUH !?

Yes sir!
clack!
WHO ELSE COULD IT BE!
HURRY UP AND GET SOME MATERIAL ALREADY!
BY "MIKI TAKUMI" YOU MEAN THAT MIKI TAKUMI AT RIKUNAN UNIVERSITY... RIGHT?
SO...
gacha!
...WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW?
gacha!

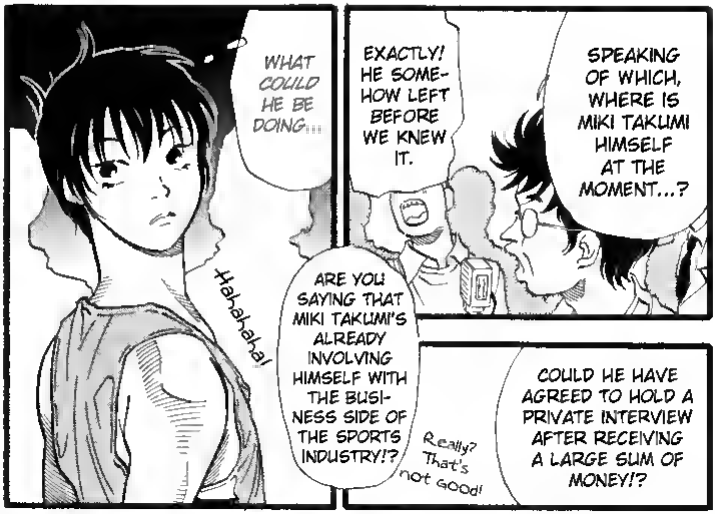

291
I GAVE IT MY BEST UNTIL THE VERY END.
BUT I GUESS THOSE FEELINGS JUST DIDN'T AFFECT THE OUTCOME OF THE RACE LIKE I HAD HOPED FOR...

Hahaha
I REGRET GETTING SECOND PLACE!

15


IS THAT REFERRING TO YOUR NEW PERSONAL BEST OF 10.05 SECONDS, BRINGING YOURSELF BACK ONTO THE WORLD LEVEL?
I FEEL VERY SATISFIED BECAUSE I WAS ABLE TO BRING OUT THE BEST OF MY ABILITIES TODAY.
SINCE... WELL,
BUT IT ISN'T ALL REGRET.

YA STILL DON'T GET IT? IT WAS ONE OF THE GREATEST RACES EVER! AND THAT'S ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU FEEL SATISFIED!
NO, IT'S NOT THAT... IT'S SOMETHING I CAN'T PUT INTO WORDS REALLY WELL...
SO, IF I MAY ASK, WHAT'S YOUR NEXT GOAL?
I GUESS THAT'S TRUE.
I'D LIKE TO EXCEED HIM, AT THE NEXT 'WORLD' LEVEL COMPETITION.
カシャ!
<FLASH>
MIKI TAKUMI, OF COURSE!
カシャ!
16
I AIN'T LOSIN'!
カシャ!
<FLASH>
NOT TO MIKI TAKUMI, OR TO THESE TWO PEOPLE HERE EITHER!
TO CHALLENGE THE 'WORLD' TOGETHER!
<FLASH>


WHAT COULD HE BE DOING...
Hahaha!
ARE YOU SAYING THAT MIKI TAKUMI'S ALREADY INVOLVING HIMSELF WITH THE BUSINESS SIDE OF THE SPORTS INDUSTRY!?
EXACTLY! HE SOMEHOW LEFT BEFORE WE KNEW IT.
SPEAKING OF WHICH, WHERE IS MIKI TAKUMI HIMSELF AT THE MOMENT...?
Really? That's not good!
COULD HE HAVE AGREED TO HOLD A PRIVATE INTERVIEW AFTER RECEIVING A LARGE SUM OF MONEY!?

<CHATTER>

<CHATTER X2>

UH... CURRENTLY, MIKI TAKUMI IS RESIDING WITHIN THE INSPECTION FACILITY...
HE'S CURRENTLY BEING PUT UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR THE SUSPICION OF DOPING...
AND THUS, ALL INTERVIEW ARE TO BE POSTPONED UNTIL TOMORROW...
And so, if you'd now excuse me.
WHAT!?
ザワ!!
H- HOLD ON! PLEASE HOLD ON FOR A MOMENT!
<COMMOTION!!!>
COULD WE PLEASE HAVE A COMMENT FROM MIKI-KUN!?
DOPING!? WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
MI-MIKI...!?
HEY! HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO KNOW ANYTHING LIKE THIS!
Hold on!!

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JUJU: THERE'S SO MUCH I'D LIKE TO SAY... BUT I CAN'T -_-... SINCE IT'D SPOIL THE UPCOMING EVENTS... AND THAT WOULD BE NO FUN FOR ANYONE. INSTEAD! LEMME COMPLAIN HOW I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO ENJOY READING D-ASH EVERY AGAIN SINCE EVERY PAGE IS FILLED WITH HORRIBLE MEMORIES OF HOW I'VE TOILED LATE INTO THE NIGHT, TALKING TO MYSELF WHILST BLASTING AWAY THE SAME SMALL COLLECTION OF HYPERACTIVE ANIME OP/ED SONGS! YAY! ... ...

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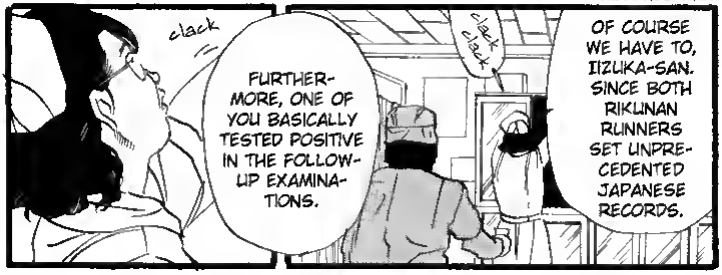
THE_MIGHTY_HIGHLORD & PINKKITTY

act.49
Thoughts of Love

Rikunan Miki Fukumi

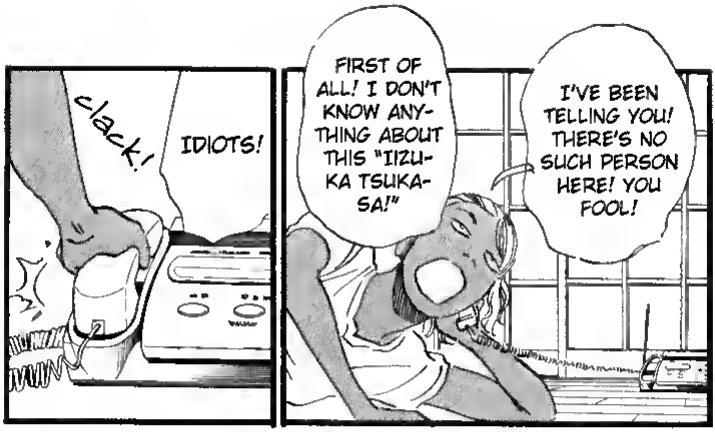
DO NOT SPEAK OF ANY-THING ELSE.
THERE'S GOING TO BE AN INTERVIEW AT 3PM TODAY. YOU ARE GOING TO BE ATTEN-DING IT, BY YOURSELF.
JUST FEED THEM THE LINE "I don't know."
I ALSO EXPECT YOU TO COMPLY WITH YOUR RESIGNATION, SO AFTER YOU'VE PACKED, YOU'RE GOING TO "DISAPPEAR" FOR A WHILE OVER-SEAS.
click!
Yes
3
rilling
rilling
rilling
rilling
Motherfucker!
G4
I lied to me!!!

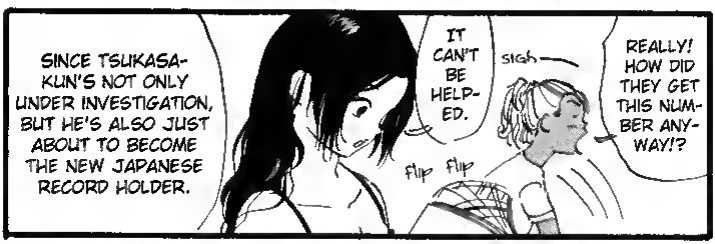
slash
pee
WHY DO I HAVE TO TAKE ADDITIONAL TESTS TOO!?
WHAT THE HELL!?
<-MORI HOSPITAL>


clack
FURTHER-MORE, ONE OF YOU BASICALLY TESTED POSITIVE IN THE FOLLOW-UP EXAMINA-TIONS.
clack clack
OF COURSE WE HAVE TO, IIZUKA-SAN. SINCE BOTH RIKUNAN RUNNERS SET UNPRE-CEDENTED JAPANESE RECORDS.

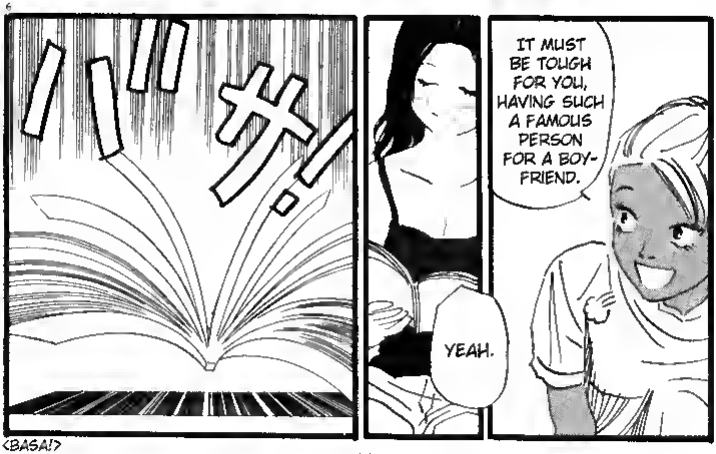
THAT WAS THE RATIO OF TESTOS-TERONE TO EPITESTOS-TERONE IN HIS URINE...
NO MATTER HOW YOU THINK ABOUT IT, VALUES LIKE THAT ONLY APPEAR WHEN YOU'RE SUBJECT TO DOPING.
7 TO 1...
HOW CAN MIKI TEST PO-SITIVE!?
ISN'T IT A MISTAKE WITH THE TESTS!?

YA-YAGI-SAN!
EXACTLY! IT'S ALMOST LIKE A VALUE THAT THEY WERE AIMING FOR IN ORDER NOT TO GET CAUGHT!
HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE!
COULD YOU PLEASE NOT TALK TO ME AS IF I'M A FLY OR A MOUSE.
JOURNALISTS ARE KNOWN FOR APPEARING IN THE MOST UNEXPECTED OF PLACES!
THIS AREA IS RESTRICTED TO AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY!
COME ON NOW, AREN'T THE TWO OF US FRIENDS! DON'T BE SO COLD!
Shoo~ Out! Out!
5
HOLD ON!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "NOT GET CAUGHT"!
YOU'RE IIZUKA TSUKASA, RIGHT?
INSTEAD OF MIKI TAKUMI, SHOULDN'T YOU BE MORE WORRIED ABOUT YOURSELF?
IF THEY CONFIRM THAT HE WAS DOPING, YOU WOULD BE THE NEW JAPANESE RECORD HOLDER...
RIGHT ABOUT NOW, YOUR HOUSE SHOULD BE UNDER ATTACK BY THE MASS MEDIA.


clack!
IDIOTS!
FIRST OF ALL! I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS "IIZUKA TSUKASA!"
I'VE BEEN TELLING YOU! THERE'S NO SUCH PERSON HERE! YOU FOOL!

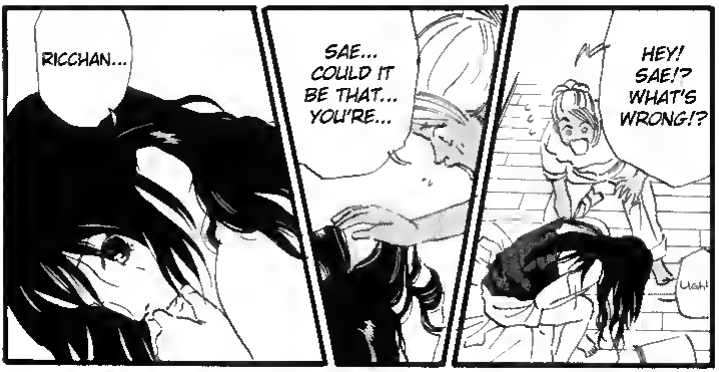

SINCE TSUKASA-KUN'S NOT ONLY UNDER INVESTIGATION, BUT HE'S ALSO JUST ABOUT TO BECOME THE NEW JAPANESE RECORD HOLDER.
IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
sigh
Flip Flip
REALLY! HOW DID THEY GET THIS NUMBER ANYWAY!?

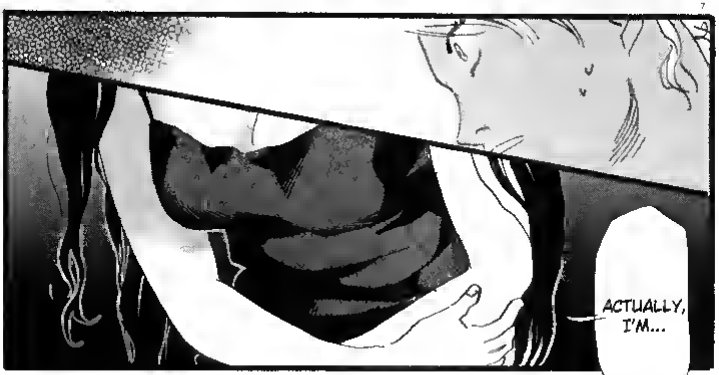
6

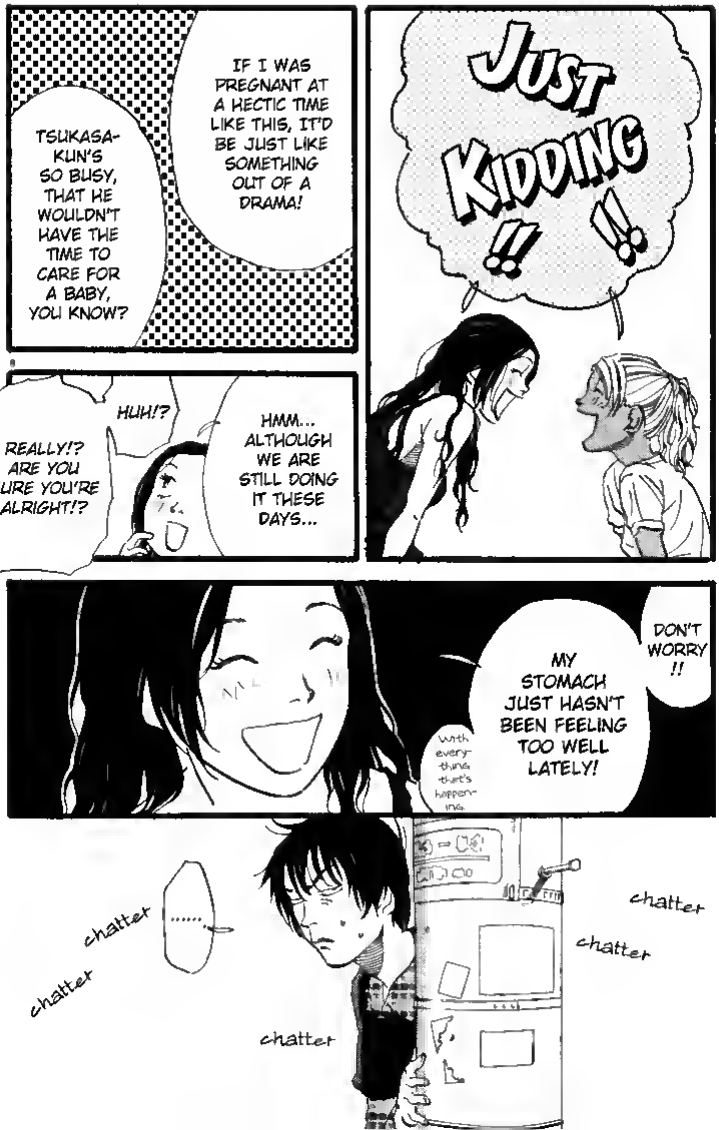

バサ
IT MUST BE TOUGH FOR YOU, HAVING SUCH A FAMOUS PERSON FOR A BOYFRIEND.
YEAH.

<BASA!?>

<URGH>

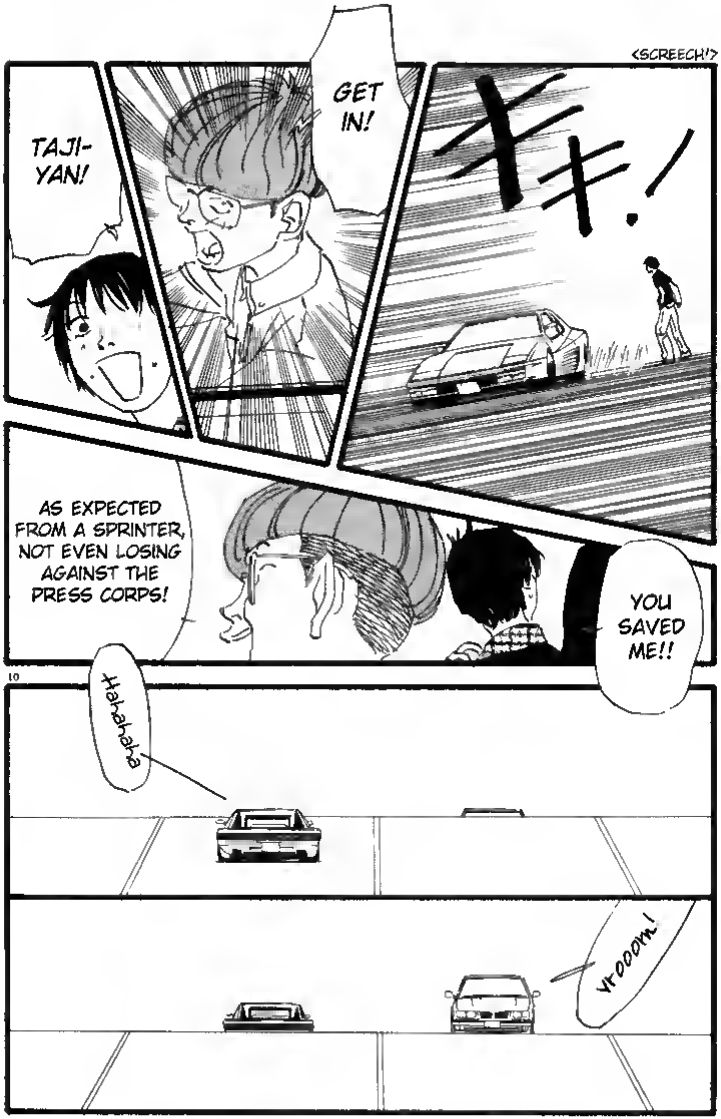

RICCHAN...
SAE... COULD IT BE THAT... YOU'RE...
HEY! SAE!? WHAT'S WRONG!?

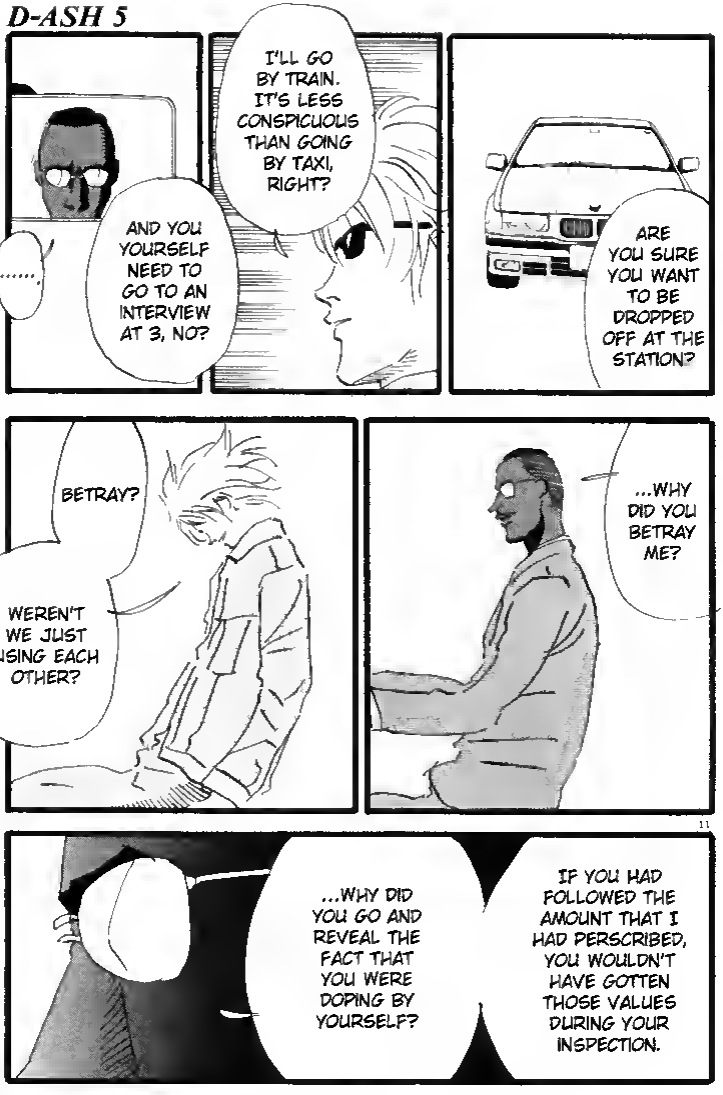

ACTUALLY, I'M...


IF I WAS PREGNANT AT A HECTIC TIME LIKE THIS, IT'D BE JUST LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A DRAMA!
TSUKASA-KUN'S SO BUSY, THAT HE WOULDN'T HAVE THE TIME TO CARE FOR A BABY, YOU KNOW?
JUST KIDDING !!
HMM... ALTHOUGH WE ARE STILL DOING IT THESE DAYS...
HUH!?
REALLY!? ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE ALRIGHT!?
DON'T WORRY !!
MY STOMACH JUST HASN'T BEEN FEELING TOO WELL LATELY!
With everything that's happening
chatter
chatter
chatter
chatter
chatter
.....

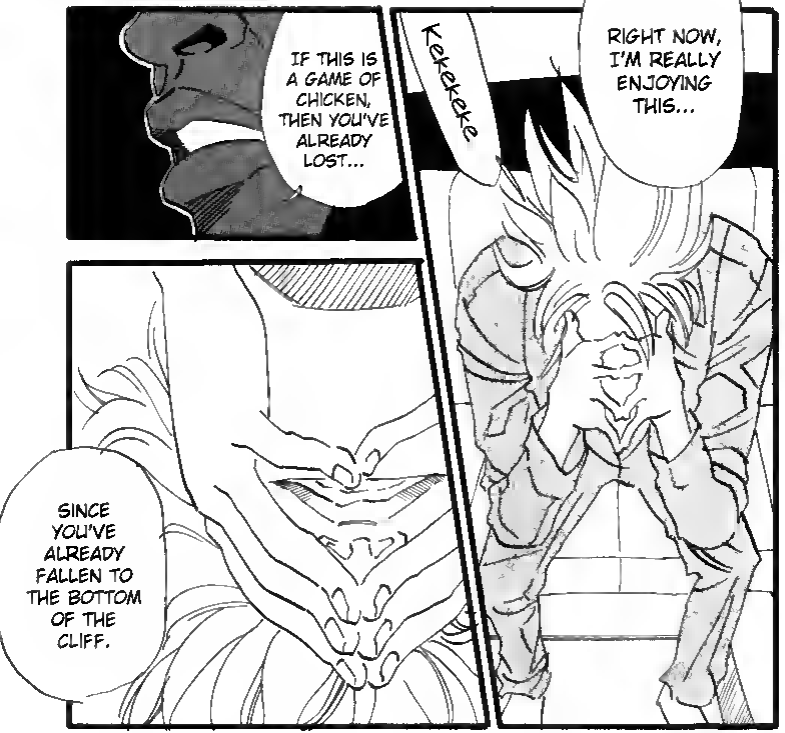
Pa-Papa-razzi
Could we have him comment on the upcoming Olympics!?
What do you mean by doping! My Tsukasa isn't that kind of a child!
I've told you! He isn't here right now!
OH CRAP!
<RUN!>
Eeeep!
THERE HE IS! IT'S IIZUKA TSUKASA!
Jump!!
creep
THIS IS BAD...
stampede
HEY! IIZUKA-KUN, WHAT WERE THE RESULTS FROM YOUR FOLLOW-UP TESTS!?
DID YOU KNOW ABOUT MIKI'S DOPING!?
LIKE HELL I WOULD!
<SCREECH>

<JUJU'S NOTES: TAJI-YAN (タジやん) IS A FRIENDLY "BUDDY" VERSION OF "TAJIMA"...>

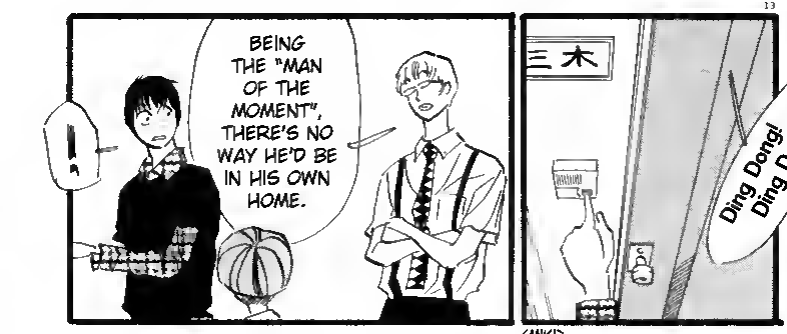



.....
AND YOU YOURSELF NEED TO GO TO AN INTERVIEW AT 3, NO?
I'LL GO BY TRAIN. IT'S LESS CONSPICUOUS THAN GOING BY TAXI, RIGHT?
ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO BE DROPPED OFF AT THE STATION?
BETRAY?
WEREN'T WE JUST USING EACH OTHER?
...WHY DID YOU BETRAY ME?
...WHY DID YOU GO AND REVEAL THE FACT THAT YOU WERE DOPING BY YOURSELF?
IF YOU HAD FOLLOWED THE AMOUNT THAT I HAD PERSCRIBED, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN THOSE VALUES DURING YOUR INSPECTION.

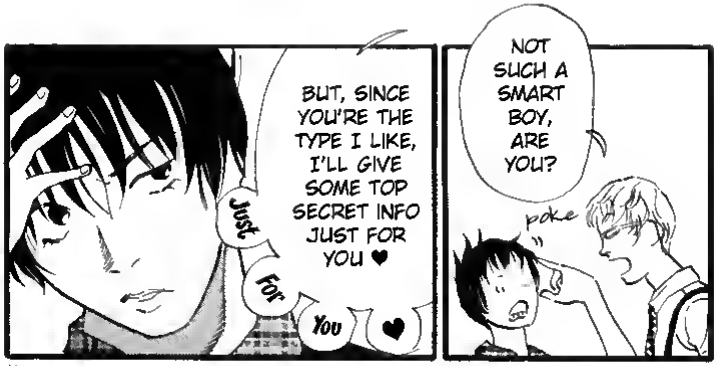
YOU MEAN ...
TSU-KASA?
I THOUGHT IT WAS ENOUGH FOR ME TO BE YOUR ONLY "LAB RAT".
YOU DID THIS FOR TSUKASA!?
12
THEY'VE ALWAYS BEEN, EVER SINCE I WAS A CHILD...
I JUST COULDN'T STAND TO SEE MY SACRED GROUNDS DEFILED ANY FURTHER... THAT'S IT...
.....
THE TRACK FIELDS ARE MY ONLY SACRED GROUNDS ...
MARVIN, THIS IS A GAME OF CHICKEN. THE CLOSER THAT I GET TO THE EDGE OF THE CLIFF, THE MORE MISFORTUNE BEFALLS UPON YOU AND GOTENYAMA'S CHAIRMAN'S DOPING RING.
WEREN'T WE IN THIS TOGETHER? THE TWO OF US...?


IF THIS IS A GAME OF CHICKEN, THEN YOU'VE ALREADY LOST...
Kekekeke
RIGHT NOW, I'M REALLY ENJOYING THIS...
SINCE YOU'VE ALREADY FALLEN TO THE BOTTOM OF THE CLIFF.

13


!
BEING THE "MAN OF THE MOMENT", THERE'S NO WAY HE'D BE IN HIS OWN HOME.
三木
Ding Dong! Ding Dong!

<MIKI>



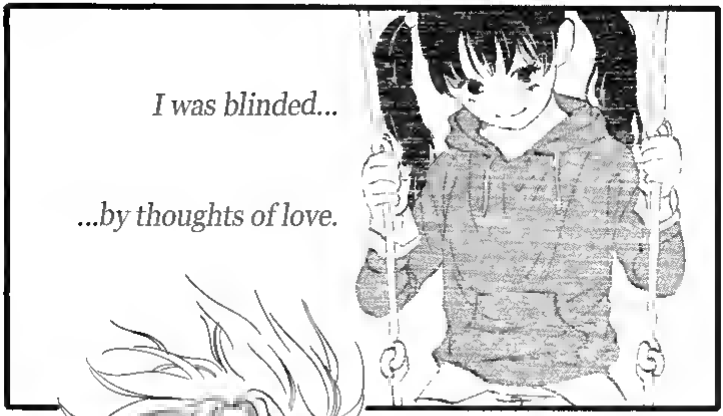
14

<ZA!>

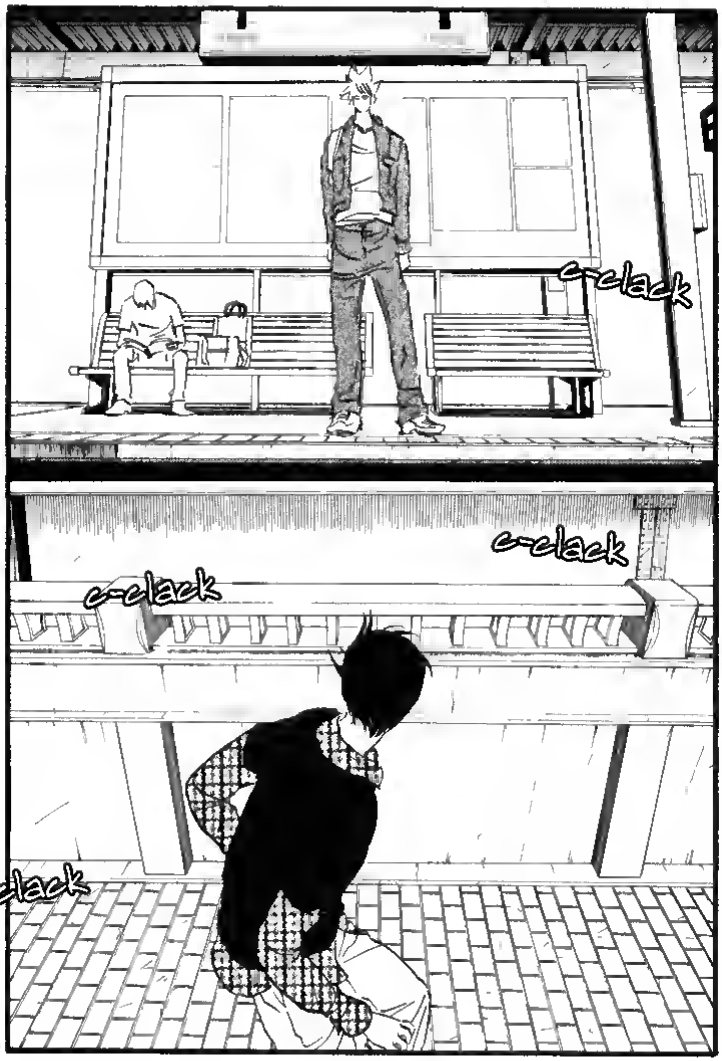
"UNTIL HE REACHES THE STATION, IT SEEMS LIKE HIS COACH MARVIN IS GIVING HIM A RIDE."

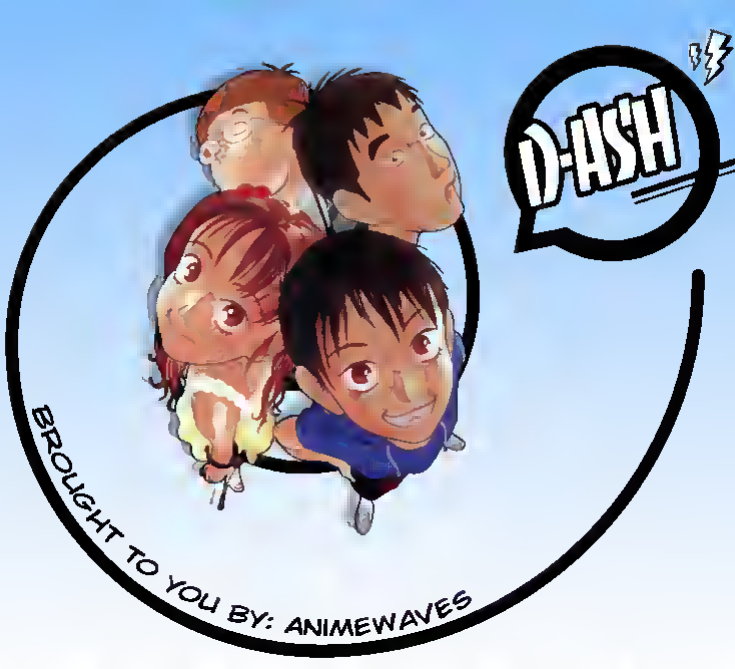
WHY IS IT THAT WHENEVER SOMEONE IMPORTANT TO ME IS SUFFERING I..
WHAT KIND OF A PERSON AM I...?
"OH, THAT PERSON QUIT ALREADY."
"SHE WAS STABBED BY THE OWNER'S WIFE."
LIKE THAT TIME WITH RIN-SAN...
I WANTED TO BE "WHITE"...
WHAT? IS THAT SOME SORT OF AN OPEN ATTACK...?
YES.
THIS IS AN ATTACK.

step
step
step
I COULDN'T SENSE ANY-THING AT ALL...


I was blinded...
...by thoughts of love.

clack


c-clack
c-clack
c-clack
c-clack



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JUJU: LI'L FYI, THE SCRIBBLY CURSIVE HANDWRITING IN THE OPENING PAGES WERE DONE BY THE ORIGINAL MANGAKA... SO DON'T GO BLAMING ME IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND THEM... WELL... OKAY, I *DID* DO A TINY CHANGE HERE AND THERE TO AID WITH THE SENSE-MAKING PROCESS... THE "GA!" COMING OUT OF THE PHONE IS SFX... NO, THE PHONE IS NOT SCREAMING... THINK OF IT AS "CLACK"...

RAW-PROVIDER:

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TRANSLATOR:

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EDITOR:

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PROOFING & QC:

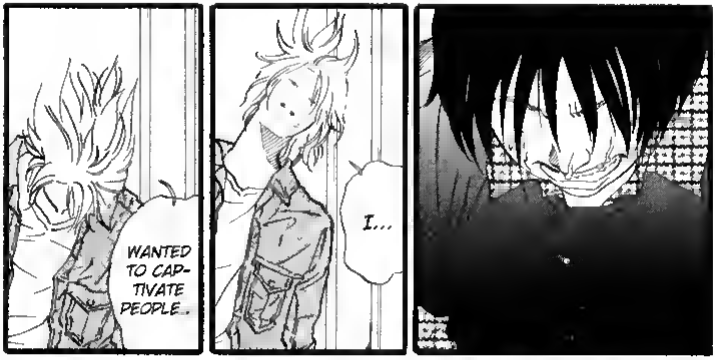
THE_MIGHTY_HIGHLORD & SE

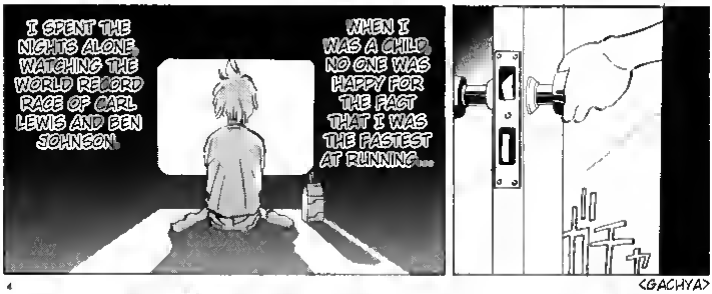
I DON'T KNOW WHAT CLAIMS THEY MAY BE MAKING, BUT IF YOU'RE REFERRING TO HOW I WAS TAKING ANABOLIC ANDROGENIC STEROIDS...
THAT IS TRUE.
IT'S NOT TRUE, RIGHT?
haa
haa
haa
haa
haa
ALL THAT STUFF THEY'RE SAYING IN THE NEWS ON TV'S JUST A LIE, RIGHT!?

act.50
Last Race

GRAB!?
IT WAS MARVIN, RIGHT!?
YOU GOT TRICKED BY HIM TOO, RIGHT!?
WHAT HE GAVE ME THAT NIGHT AT THE TRAINING CAMP WERE STEROIDS, RIGHT!?
I AGREED TO DO IT.
...UN-FORTU-NATELY...
SLIP
BUT I WANTED IT FOR MYSELF TOO, TO BECOME THE NUMBER ONE SPRINTER IN ASIA...
IT'S TRUE THAT AT FIRST HE WAS THE ONE WHO WAS PUSHING ME TO USE THEM...

<POW>
WERE YOU THAT DESPERATE TO REACH 9 SECONDS!?
SO BADLY THAT YOU'D USE SUCH A DIRTY METHOD !!!?
SHALL I TELL YOU SOMETHING EVEN DIRTIER?
THE SIDE EFFECTS OF DOPING MADE ME IMPOTENT, AND DURING THAT TIME THE ONE WHO TAUGHT ME HOW TO HAVE SEX AGAIN WAS MARVIN.
I THOUGHT OF YOU AS A RIVAL, AND TRIED MY BEST TO CHASE AFTER YOU, AND YET YOU...
YOU'RE HORRIBLE!
.....
.....
HORRIBLE.


WANTED TO CAPTIVATE PEOPLE...
I...


I SPENT THE NIGHTS ALONE, WATCHING THE WORLD RECORD RACE OF CARL LEWIS AND BEN JOHNSON.
WHEN I WAS A CHILD, NO ONE WAS HAPPY FOR THE FACT THAT I WAS THE FASTEST AT RUNNING...
4
<GACHYA>

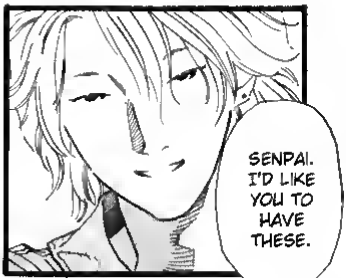
I KNEW MY HEROES ON THE TELEVISION COULDN'T SAVE ME... I KNEW THAT...
BUT WHAT THOSE CATHODE RAY TUBE SUPER STARS COULD DO, WAS TO SHOW ME WHAT I WANTED TO BECOME.

MIKI! GET OFF OF IT! START OVER AGAIN!
IF IT'S YOU... YOU CAN STILL MAKE IT COME TRUE... EVEN WITHOUT USING DRUGS...
AFTER YOUR SUSPENSION IS OVER... WITH A CLEAN RECOVERED BODY...
RACE WITH ME ONCE AGAIN!
sniffle
sniff
sob
5
EVEN... IF I'M CLEAN...
...WITH WHAT I'VE BEEN INVOLVED WITH, I WONDER IF I'LL HAVE THE STRENGTH TO COMPETE IN TRACK, AGAIN...
Z-IIIIIP

I'LL GIVE THESE TO YOU, SENPAI.

I- I DON'T WAN'EM THESE ARE YOUR-...

NO MIKI! NO!!
I'M BEGGING YOU!! PLEASE KEEP ON RUNNING!!
I SAID I DON'T WANT THESE! THE TWO OF US HAVEN'T RACED FOR REAL YET!


SENPAI. I'D LIKE YOU TO HAVE THESE.

PLEASE TAKE THESE AND GO!
TO THE WORLD'S MOST MAGNIFICENT "SPORTS FESTIVAL"...
THE OLYMPICS.
<SMILE>

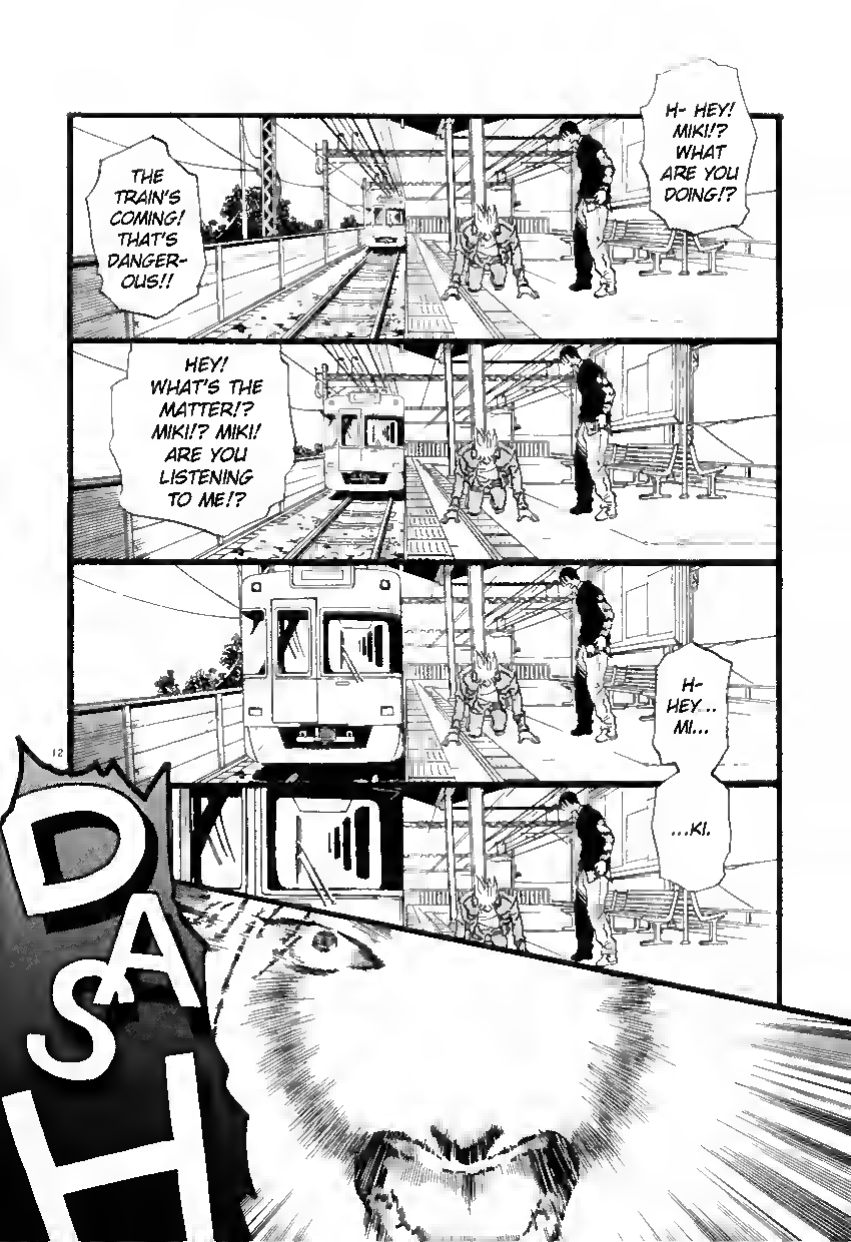
I'D LIKE MYSELF TO BE THE LAST SPRINTER OF THIS KIND...
NO MATTER HOW YOU WIN WITH DOPING, THE VICTORIOUS FEELING YOU GET ALWAYS CHANGES INTO GUILT...
AREN'T...
...AREN'T YOU COMING WITH ME, MIKI!?
..... WHY?
WHO KNOWS...
THAT BY CAUSING A SCANDAL LIKE THIS, THINGS LIKE DOPING WILL NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN IN THE WORLD OF OUR COUNTRY'S ATHLETICS...
...OR SOME-THING LIKE THAT.
PERSO-NALLY, I BELIEVE...

ALTHOUGH IT'S ALWAYS BEEN AN UNREQUITED LOVE...
PROBABLY BECAUSE I MET YOU...
WHY DIDN'T YOU TALK TO ME ABOUT ALL THIS THEN!?
AM I THAT UNRELIABLE A PERSON!?
Hey,
THAT'S NOT WHY...
THERE'S ANOTHER 'ME' WITHIN MYSELF WHICH HAS ALWAYS BEEN SAYING THAT IF I CONTINUE TO RELY ON THESE DRUGS, I'D LOSE ALL HOPE FOR THE FUTURE...
I HAD TO GIVE UP ON ALL HOPE...
OR ELSE I COULDN'T MAKE MY DREAM COME TRUE... THAT'S THE KIND OF PERSON I AM
I HAD TO BREAK MYSELF TO PIECES...

BUT... WITHIN ALL THAT...
I'M TRULY GRATE-FUL...
BEING ABLE TO MEET WITH YOU.
They shone brilliantly... Our seasons together...

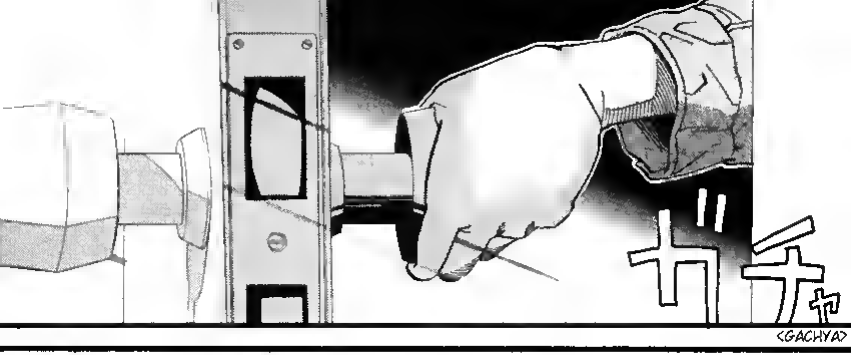
And so...
In order to keep that brilliance shining forever...

<ZA!?
ザ!!
...FOR A BIGGER SCANDAL!
For one last time, I shall run once more!
For one last time...
THERE'S A NEED...
...IN ORDER TO NEVER HAVE A SECOND SPRINTER IN THIS COUNTRY COMMITTING THE SAME ERROR EVER AGAIN...
c-clack c-clack
2
An Express Line will be passing through Platform 2.
Please stand behind the yellow line...
<PI X4>


H- HEY! MIKI!? WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
THE TRAIN'S COMING! THAT'S DANGER-OUS!!
HEY! WHAT'S THE MATTER!? MIKI!? MIKI! ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME!?
H- HEY.. MI...
...KI.
DASH

<CLACK>
MIKI!?!
<CLACK X5>
I present thee my greatest master-piece for tomorrow's front page!!
For the scandal, that'll forever tarnish the track career of my youth

May this forever burn within the hearts of those who live on!!
Behold...
For this is Asia's No. 1 sprinter's...
...Miki Takumi's,
Last Race!
Vooooo...
Mikiiiiiii!!



<GACHYA>

AAAA

WWW ANIMEWAVES.NET #ANIMEWAVES @ RIZON

JUJU: I HAD PLANNED TO SAY SO MANY THINGS ABOUT THAT LI'L "SPLAT" NEAR THE END... BUT I'LL REFRAIN FROM DOING SO ... (HOWEVER, BOTH MY PROOFERS COMMENTED IN THEIR PROOFS ..) ALSO, BEN JOHNSON'S 1988 "RECORD" (QUOTES... SINCE HE'S BEEN FOUND GUILTY OF DOPING...) OF 9.79 SECONDS, WOULD INDEED BE THE "WORLD RECORD" BACK IN 1997... THE CURRENT "OFFICIAL" RECORD IS 9.77 SECONDS, WHICH WAS SET BY ASAFA POWELL AND JUSTIN GATLIN A FEW YEARS AGO.

RAW-PROVIDER:

PV82 & THOR-HAMMER

TRANSLATOR:

JUJUBIX

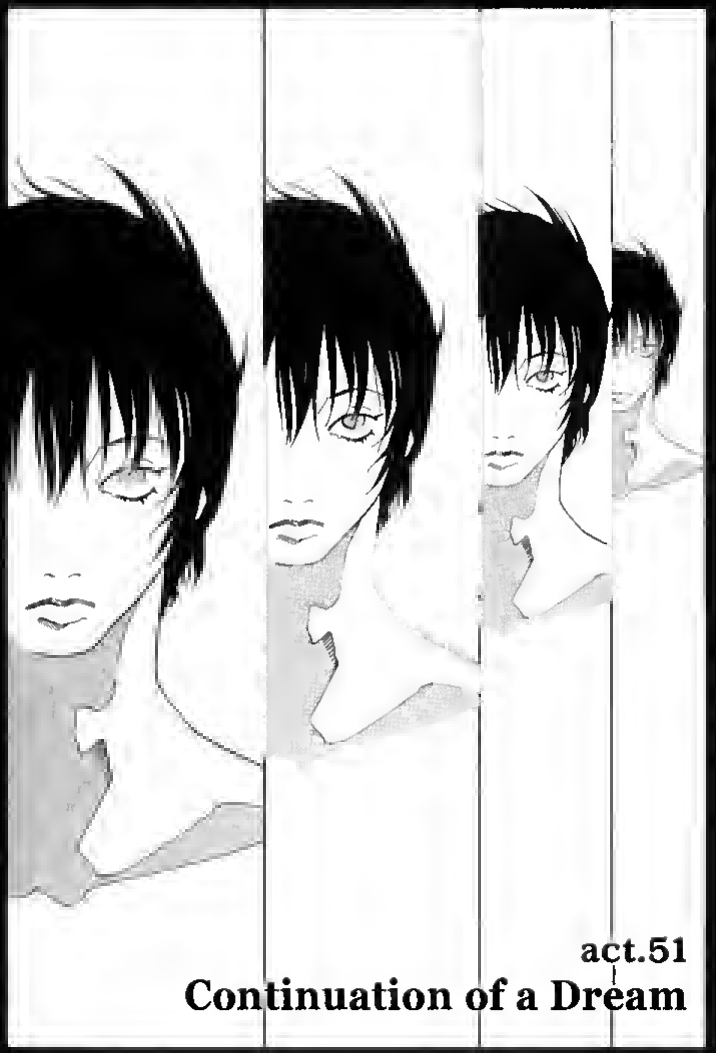
EDITOR:

JUJUBIX

PROOFING & QC:

THE_MIGHTY_HIGHLORD & SE

ZOMGOD HE ARE DEAD ;;<



act.51
Continuation of a Dream

...We'll be having an in-depth discussion on the recent "Sports Doping" news currently sweeping the nation!

Now then, for tonight's "Special News Flash", our topic will be the "Drug-strained Hero!"...

If a celebrity suddenly lost all the fame and fortune they gained with the looks they got by going through surgery, wouldn't anyone feel like killing themselves?

Oh! That's enough!

Well, isn't it just like the plastic surgery that celebrities do these days, right?!

7

"

2

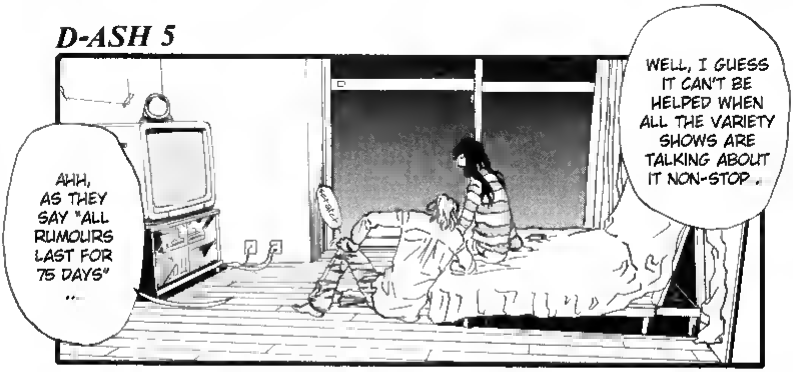
<PU-TSU>

ALL THIS NEWS ABOUT MIKI'S SCANDAL...

BUT HASN'T THIS BEEN GOING ON FOR WAY TOO LONG?

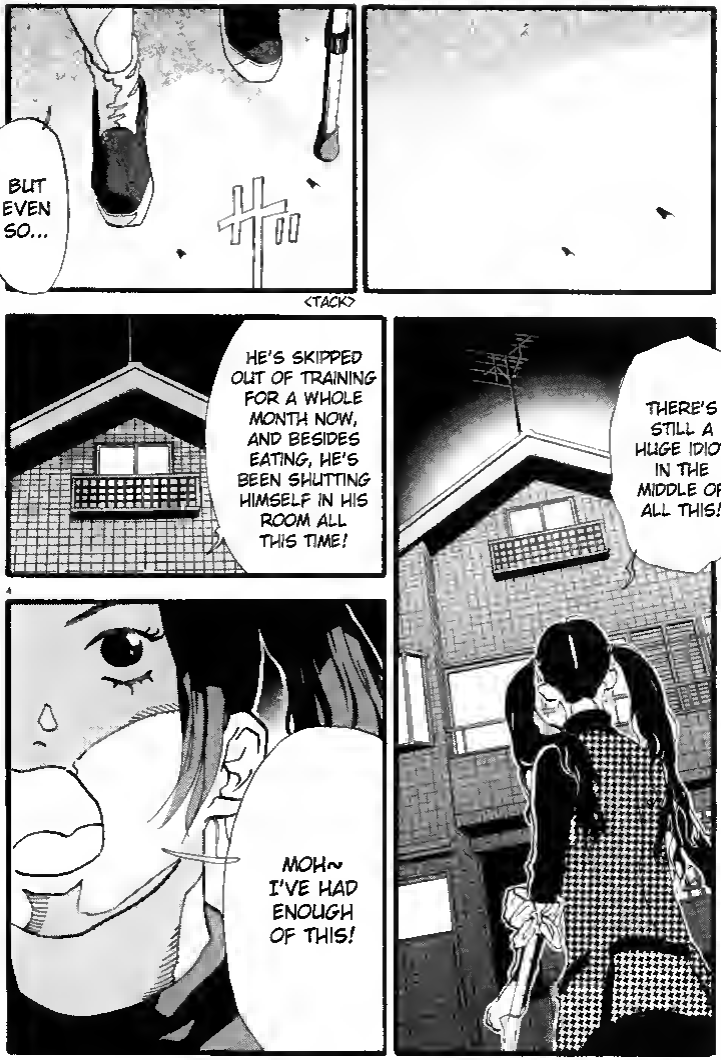
...SAYING WHATEVER THEY WANT TO EXCITE THE PUBLIC, EACH AND EVERYONE OF THEM...

<JUJU'S NOTES: THE "SAYING" RITSU REFERS TO IS "人の噂も75日"... IT'S A JAPANESE THING... >


AHH, AS THEY SAY "ALL RUMOURS LAST FOR 75 DAYS" ...
WELL, I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED WHEN ALL THE VARIETY SHOWS ARE TALKING ABOUT IT NON-STOP.

A MONTH HAS ALREADY PASSED SINCE THE SHOCKING INCIDENT WHERE MIKI-KUN LEAPT OFF THE STATION PLATFORM INTO AN ONCOMING TRAIN.

IN SHORT, DUE TO MIKI-KUN'S DEATH, TSUKASA-KUN AND MANY SPRINTERS TO COME ARE NOW PROTECTED FROM THE HARMFUL GRASPS OF DOPING...

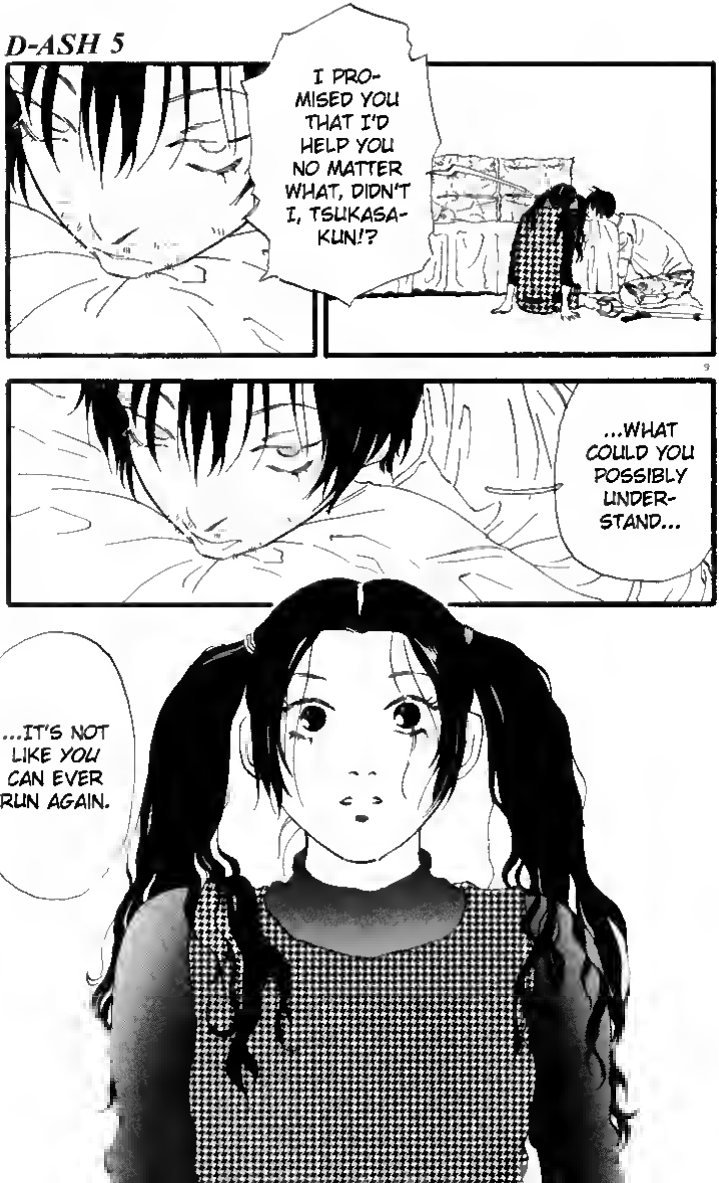

BUT EVEN SO...
<TACK>
HE'S SKIPPED OUT OF TRAINING FOR A WHOLE MONTH NOW, AND BESIDES EATING, HE'S BEEN SHUTTING HIMSELF IN HIS ROOM ALL THIS TIME!
THERE'S STILL A HUGE IDIOT IN THE MIDDLE OF ALL THIS!
MOH~ I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS!

ガチャ!
!
YES YES! I'M COMING!
DING DONG!
DING DONG!
DING DONG!
BAM BAM BAM
HAVEN'T I ALREADY SAID!? THAT BOY IS STILL RECOVERING FROM THE SHOCK! HE'S STILL UNEASY ABOUT GIVING INTERVIEWS TO THE MEDIA!
I HAVE TO MEET WITH HIM!
H-HOLD ON!
I'VE COME TO MEET WITH TSUKASA-KUN.
YOU ARE NOT TURNING ME AWAY AT THE DOOR THIS TIME!
YOU! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING!?
スカスカ
YOU...
WHAT KIND OF RELATION DO YOU HAVE WITH MY TSUKASA!?
bam! bam!
H- HE'S TOLD ME NOT TO LET ANYONE MEET WITH HIM!

"SEXUAL RELATIONS"!
YOU GOT A PROB-LEM?
gachya!

WHAT DID YOU COME FOR...?
...WHAT ARE YOU DOING...
SHUT UP.
SHUT UP.
SHUT UP.
SHUT UP.
SHUT UP.
AFTER ALL! YOU DID END UP AS THE WINNER OF THE JAPANESE CHAMPION-SHIPS!
WHAT I CAME FOR!? ARE YOU EVER PLANNING TO RETURN TO YOUR TRAINING!?
JUST SHUT UP ALREADY...

clack!
throw
GET OUT !!
thump
haa
haa
haa
haa
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP THIS UP?
JUST LEAVE ME THE HELL ALONE!!!


I PRO-
MISED YOU
THAT I'D
HELP YOU
NO MATTER
WHAT, DIDN'T
I, TSUKASA-
KUN!?
...WHAT
COULD YOU
POSSIBLY
UNDER-
STAND...
...IT'S NOT
LIKE YOU
CAN EVER
RUN AGAIN.

WERE THOSE WORDS...
SUPPOSE TO MAKE ME MAD?
<DOSU X3, BASHI, GASU, GON, BAKU DOMU, GOSU>
WELL TOO BAD FOR YOU!
BUT THAT ISN'T THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN TOLD THAT!!!
<GA!>

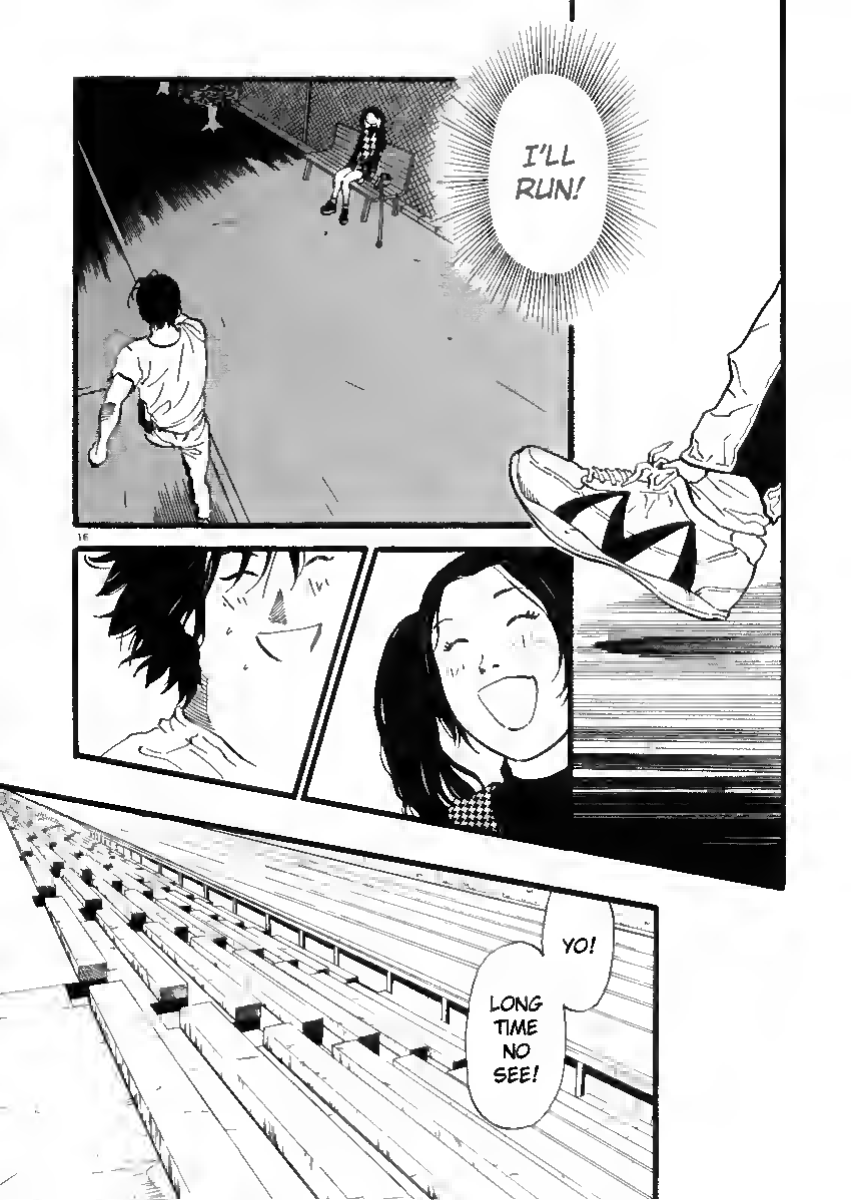
I'VE GOTTEN USED TO ALL THE TROUBLES I HAVE TO LIVE THROUGH IN MY LIFE!!
<GA>
I'VE LIVED FINE AND WELL FOR THESE TEN YEARS WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO RUN!
<GO!> <DO>
COMPARED TO YOU, YOU'RE JUST A PAMPERED KID WITHOUT A CARE IN THE WORLD, LIVING AWAY IN YOUR COMFORTABLE LIFE OBLIVIOUS TO REALITY!
<GUI!!>
JUST CAUSE YOU HAPPEN TO BE ABLE TO RUN FAST, YOU GO AND MAKE A BIG DEAL OUT OF IT...
WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH, YOU TURN BACK INTO THE COWARD YOU REALLY ARE!
YOU'RE JUST A BIG ARRO-GANT OVER-PROTECTED BABY!

GIVE ME BACK MY VIRGINITY!
SURE! DON'T RUN! AFTER ALL, WITHOUT RUNNING, YOU'RE JUST A STUPID FUCK!
ひしっ!!
...W-WHAT ...
AREN'T YOU GOING TO SAY SOME-THING?
<HISHI!!/>
12

I JUST DON'T KNOW ANYMORE!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I RUN FOR ANYMORE! WHY DO I HAVE TO KEEP RUNNING...!?
IF YOU AREN'T GOING TO RUN...
WHO ELSE IS GOING TO!?
TELL ME! IS IT ALL RIGHT TO RUN !?
IS IT ALL RIGHT TO RUN !?
IS IT ALRIGHT FOR ME TO RUN!?
...HOW'S SOMEONE LIKE ME SUPPOSE TO KNOW THAT?
IS RUN-NING ALL RIGHT ?
HEY! IS RUN-NING ALL RIGHT !?

I... DIDN'T KNOW A SINGLE THING...
AND DIED BEING ALL ALONE...
BUT HE... MIKI HAS ALWAYS BEEN RUNNING ALONE...
BECAUSE... I HAVE YOU, SAE... I'M NOT ALONE WHEN I RUN...
MIKI-KUN, WASN'T ALONE WHEN HE RAN...
BECAUSE WHEN MIKI-KUN WAS RUNNING, TSUKASA-KUN, YOU TOO HELD YOUR BREATH AND RAN WITH HIM.
I DON'T THINK HE WAS ALONE, THOUGH.
"BUT WITHIN ALL THAT... I'M TRULY GRATEFUL... BEING ABLE TO MEET WITH YOU."

YOU HAVE TO RUN.
TO CONTINUE MIKI-KUN'S DREAM.
YEP... YOU'LL HAVE TO TRAIN EXTRA HARD TO OUTDISTANCE NAKABAYASHI-SAN AND KUMADA-KUN.
MUHOH
I SEE...
WELL, I GUESS FOR NOW...
...I'LL HAVE TO MAKE UP A MONTH'S WORTH OF PRACTICE AGAIN...


I'LL RUN!
YO!
LONG TIME NO SEE!

AH, GREE-TINGS... PROF-FESOR ARISUE.
ACTUALLY, I'VE JUST BEEN INVITED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON TO BE A SPECIAL RESEAR-CHER.
I'LL BE GOING TO AMERICA NEXT MONTH.
17
REALLY? IT SURE WILL BE LONELY AROUND HERE!
IDIOT!
YOU'RE COMING ALONG TOO!
I CAME HERE TO ASK YOU ABOUT GOING ABROAD FOR 3 YEARS!
EHH!?

<MITA GYNECOLOGY>
三田産婦人科
I'M... PREG-NANT?
YES, YOU'RE THREE MONTHS IN...
YOU'LL BE DUE AROUND JUNE 6TH OF NEXT YEAR...
WHAT WILL YOU DO? WILL YOU HAVE THE CHILD?

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JUJU: NOW... THE PHRASE THAT WAS ACTUALLY WHERE "STUPID FUCK" WAS WAS "KUSARE CHINKO" (くされチンコ)... LITERALLY "ROTTEN PENIS". NOW SEEING AS HOW THAT ISN'T THE MOST COMMON OF ENGLISH PHRASES, I OPTED TO REPLACE IT WITH THE ALL-USAGE-ALL-SITUATION-WORD. IF YOU DISLIKE THIS, JUST GO BACK AND MENTALLY SWITCH IT IN YOUR HEAD TO PLEASE YOURSELF :P AND YES, SAE DOES SCREAM "GIMME BACK MA VIRGINITY" IN JAPANESE RIGHT AFTER THAT. .

RAW-PROVIDER:

PV82 & THOR-HAMMER

TRANSLATOR:

JUJUBIX

EDITOR:

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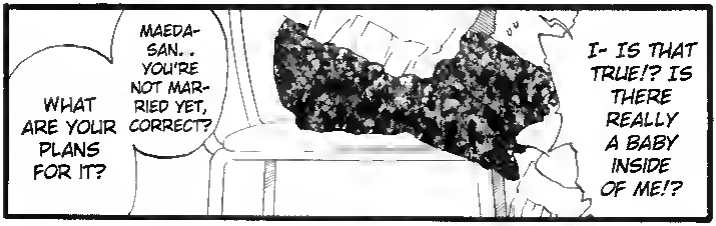
PROOFING & QC:

THE_MIGHTY_HIGHLORD & PINKKITTY

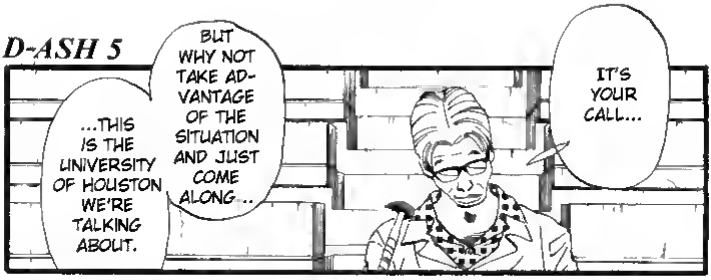
act.52
Lunar Park

IT SEEMS THAT YOU'RE PREG-NANT...
YOU'RE CURRENTLY THREE MONTHS IN, AND YOU'LL BE DUE AROUND JUNE 6TH OF NEXT YEAR.

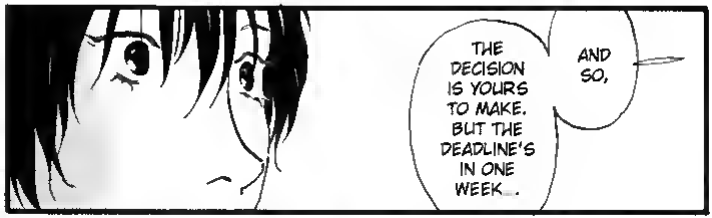

I- IS THAT TRUE!? IS THERE REALLY A BABY INSIDE OF ME!?
MAEDA-SAN.. YOU'RE NOT MAR-RIED YET, CORRECT?
WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR IT?

I...

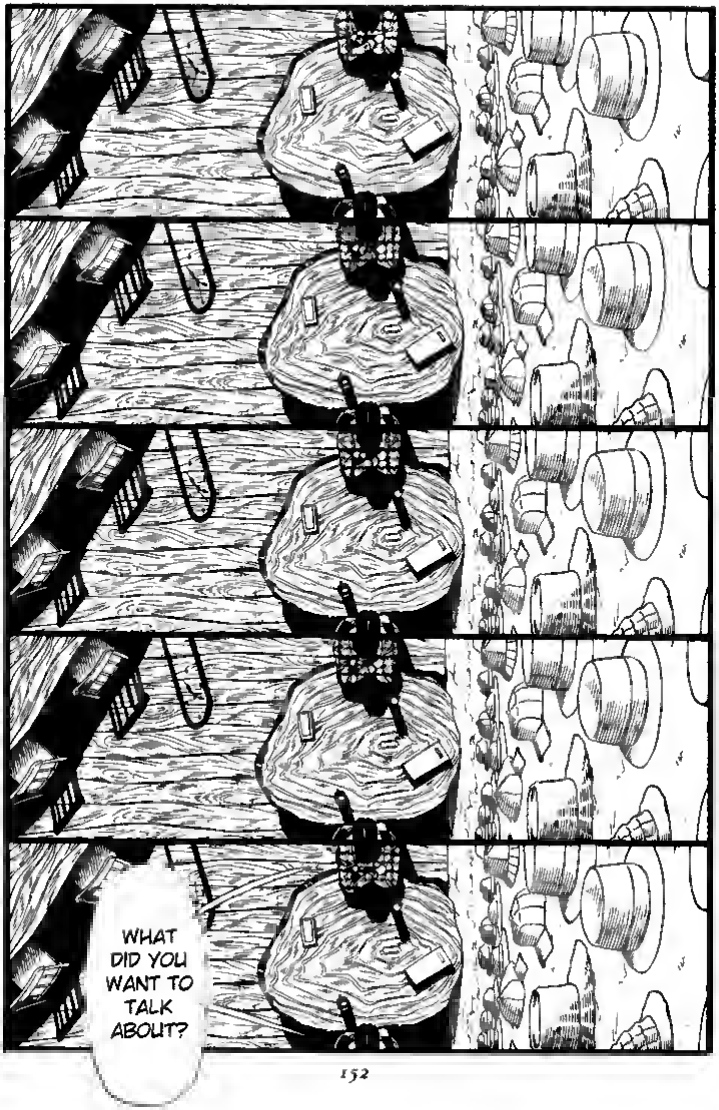
I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THIS CHILD.

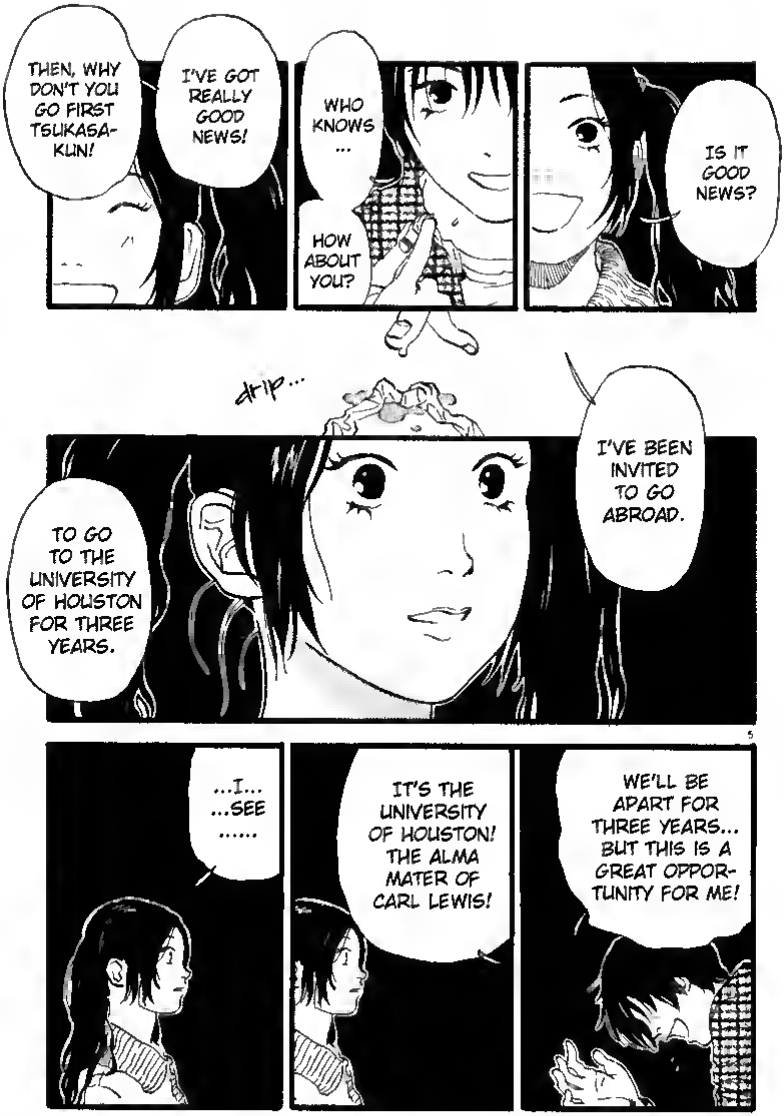

...THIS IS THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON WE'RE TALKING ABOUT.
BUT WHY NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION AND JUST COME ALONG...
IT'S YOUR CALL...

WHILE YOU'RE ONLY 168CM TALL, YOUR STRIDE IS 1.6M LONG. YOUR START TIME IS A MERE 0.132 SECONDS... AND YOU'RE ALSO AN ASIAN SPRINTER WHO'S THE CHAMPION OF JAPAN. THOSE OVERSEAS HAVE REALLY TAKEN AN INTEREST IN YOU.

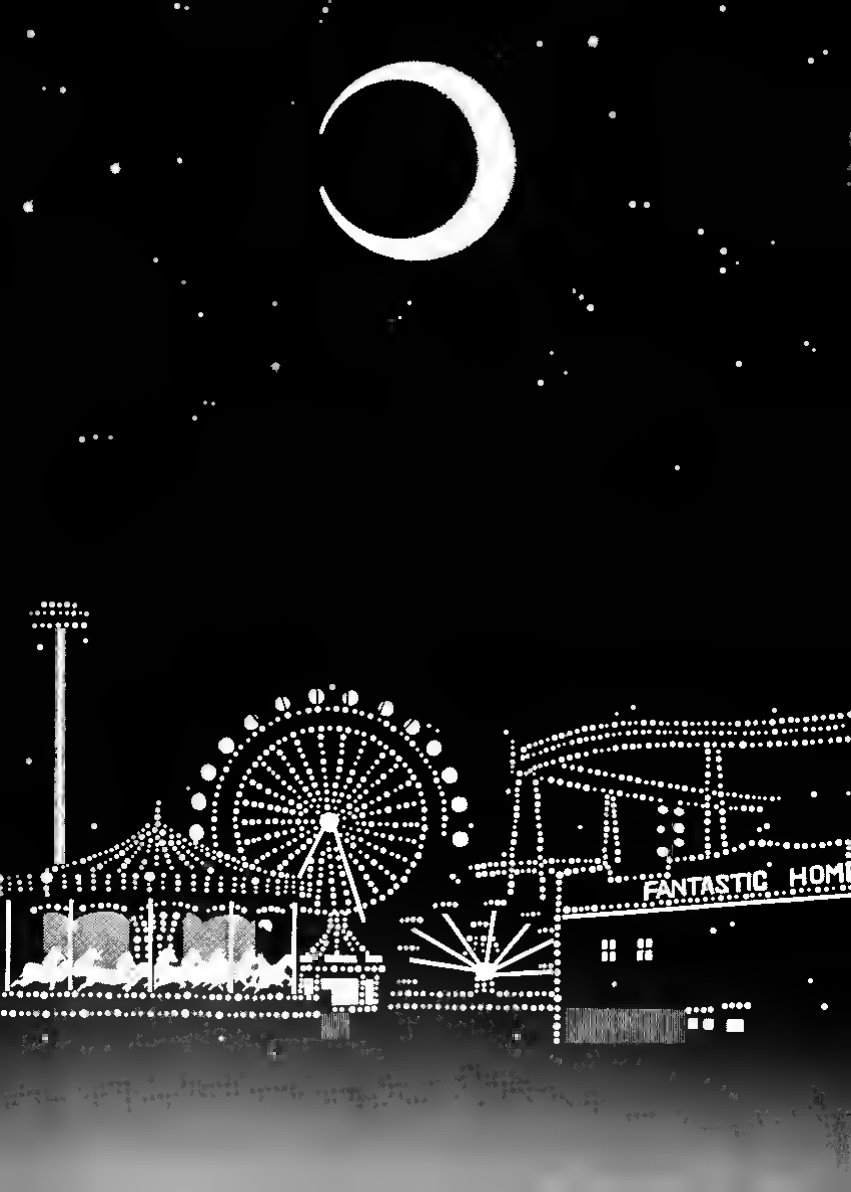

THE DECISION IS YOURS TO MAKE. BUT THE DEADLINE'S IN ONE WEEK.
AND SO,

I'LL BE LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR REPLY.


WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?


THEN, WHY DON'T YOU GO FIRST TSUKASA-KUN!
I'VE GOT REALLY GOOD NEWS!
WHO KNOWS ...
HOW ABOUT YOU?
IS IT GOOD NEWS?
drip...
I'VE BEEN INVITED TO GO ABROAD.
TO GO TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON FOR THREE YEARS.
...I... ...SEE .....
IT'S THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON! THE ALMA MATER OF CARL LEWIS!
WE'LL BE APART FOR THREE YEARS... BUT THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR ME!

IF I'M SOMEHOW ABLE TO MEET WITH HIM IN PERSON THERE... AND MAYBE HAVE A MOCK RACE AGAINST HIM OR SOMETHING...
THAT, WOULD DEFINITELY BE A DREAM COME TRUE!!
IT'S LIKE MEETING WITH MY GOD, CARL LEWIS.
THREE YEARS ISN'T A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME!
BUT I'M STILL WORRIED ABOUT YOU, SAE...
THAT'S WONDERFUL! YOU HAVE TO GO!
IS IT REALLY OKAY?
IT'S OKAY.


FANTASTIC HOM

SO ALL YOU WANTED TO TALK ABOUT...
WAS FOR US TO COME THIS AMUSE-MENT PARK?
THAT'S NOT EXACTLY IT, BUT...
IT'S NOTHING, FORGET ABOUT IT.
COMPARED TO WHAT YOU SAID, IT'S NOTHING REALLY IMPORTANT.
<GOKON>
<GOKON X2> <CLACK>
YOU KNOW... THIS REMINDS ME OF THE SKY PARK.
<GOKON X2>
<GIRI X3> <CREAK>
WHEN I WAS A SMALL GIRL, MY FAMILY CAME TO THIS PLACE ONCE,
AND ON THE WAY HOME...
AN ACCIDENT HAPPENED.

WHY DID YOU COME HERE NOW...?
THEN ...
ゴトン
THIS PLACE ,, WAS THE LAST PLACE I WAS TOGETHER... TOGETHER RUNNING AND PLAYING WITH MY MOTHER ..
AFTER THAT DAY, I NEVER SET FOOT IN THIS PLACE AGAIN...
ゴトン
ゴトン
ゴトン

ゴトン
<GOTON>
I'M NOT GOING TO SEND YOU OFF AT THE AIRPORT.
10
グラ
<GURA>
ガタ!
YOU IDIOT! THERE'LL BE MORE WONDEFUL THINGS TO COME BETWEEN THE TWO OF US!
<GATA!>
ゴトン
ゴトン
ゴトン
<GOTON X3>
BUT... I DON'T WANT YOU TO SEE ME WHEN I'M REALLY CRYING.
RIGHT NOW, I'M CRYING TEARS OF JOY...

I WANT TO READ THE WORDS THAT YOU'LL WRITE IN YOUR LETTERS.
YEAH...
AND I WANT TO HEAR YOUR VOICE IN THE TELE-PHONE.
I... I'LL GO AND BUY A COM-PUTER.
AND I'LL SEND YOU EMAILS THROUGH THE INTER-NET.
SHUFFLE
Kiss!

12

ゴコン

ゴコン

ゴコン

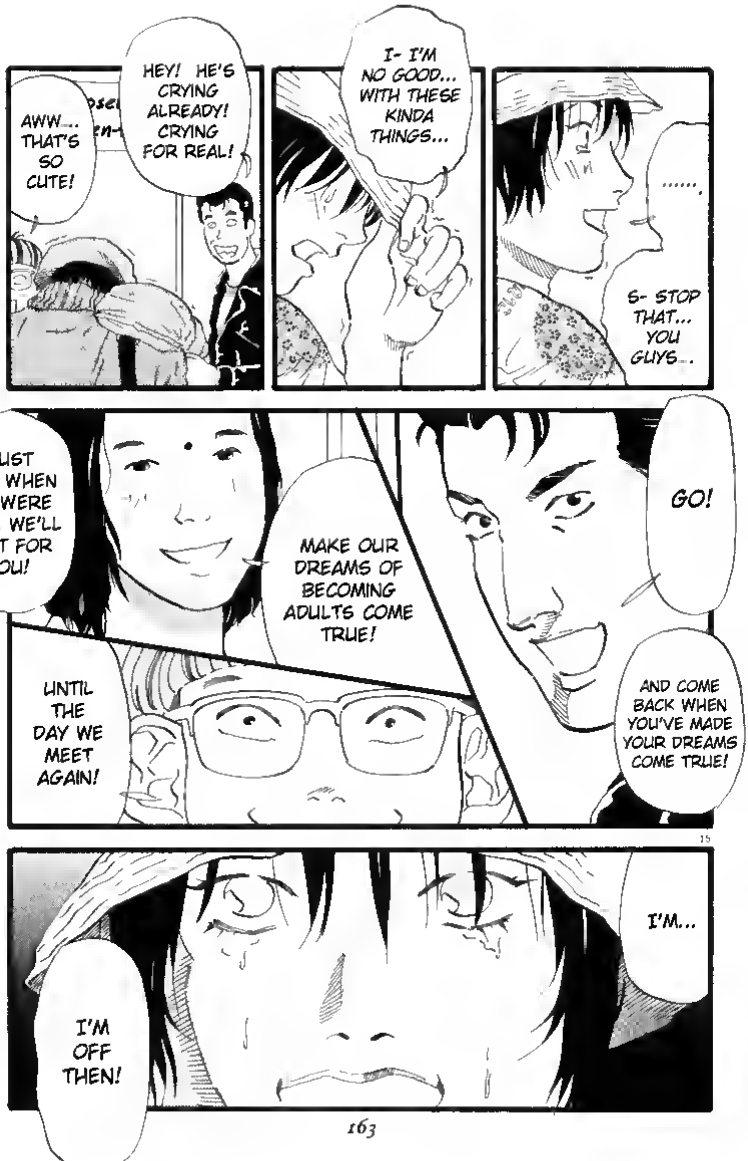
ゴコン

ゴコン

HE-Y!
WE'RE HERE TO SEE YOU OFF!
I FLOORED MY FERRARI THE WHOLE WAY TO GET US HERE!
13
BUT COME ON!
WHAT DID I DO TO DESERVE GETTING SENT OFF BY NOTHING BUT A BUNCH OF GUYS!
OH WOW!
10kg of Koshihikari rice! Eat up!
thump!
HERE, A GIFT!

<JUJU'S NOTE KOSHIHIKARI (こしきはり) IS A TYPE OF RICE THAT'S POPULAR IN JAPAN.>

<TADAA!>
TSUKASA!! Don't end up as a loser!!!
by Hentai Shonen-tai
HOLD THOSE KIND OF COMP-LAINTS FOR JUST A MOMENT, ALRIGHT?
...WHAT'S THIS SUPPOSED TO BE...
14
YOU REALLY ARE "AMAZING!"
TSUKASA! I'M ABLE TO HONESTLY SAY THIS NOW!
BEING ABLE TO RUN WITH YOU HAS REALLY BEEN A GREAT HONOUR!
by Hentai Sho
WELL... YOU'RE BOUND TO FACE A BUNCH OF TROUBLES IN AME-RICA,
SO THIS IS JUST A LITTLE SOME-THING FOR GOOD LUCK...


AWW... THAT'S SO CUTE!
HEY! HE'S CRYING ALREADY! CRYING FOR REAL!
I- I'M NO GOOD... WITH THESE KINDA THINGS...
.....
S- STOP THAT... YOU GUYS...
JUST LIKE WHEN WE WERE KIDS, WE'LL WAIT FOR YOU!
MAKE OUR DREAMS OF BECOMING ADULTS COME TRUE!
GO!
UNTIL THE DAY WE MEET AGAIN!
AND COME BACK WHEN YOU'VE MADE YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE!
I'M...
I'M OFF THEN!

TSUKASA!! Don't end up as a loser!!
By Hentai Shonen-tai

!!?
ARE YOU HERE? SAE?
I'M HOME~ SAE~
<DOTA X2>
17
H- HEY! SAE! WHAT'S WRONG!?
SAE!?
SAE !?

NTASTIC HOM

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JUJU: AHH... THE INTERNET IN THE GOOD OL' DAYS OF '97... I STILL RECALL THE TRAUMATIC TECHNO ELECTRO DIAL-UP TONE, WHERE IMAGES USED TO TAKE MINUTES TO LOAD.. AND FAST FORWARD 10 YEARS TO TODAY AND I CAN GET A 2 GIG ANIME SERIES OFF IN HALF AN HOUR ^_^. SCARY... VERY SCARY... WHO KNOWS WHAT I'LL GET IN ANOTHER 10 YEARS :P

RAW-PROVIDER:

PV82 & THOR-HAMMER

TRANSLATOR:

JUJUBIX

EDITOR:

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PROOFING & QC:

THE_MIGHTY_HIGHLORD & PINKKITTY

act.53
Bonds

...YEAH

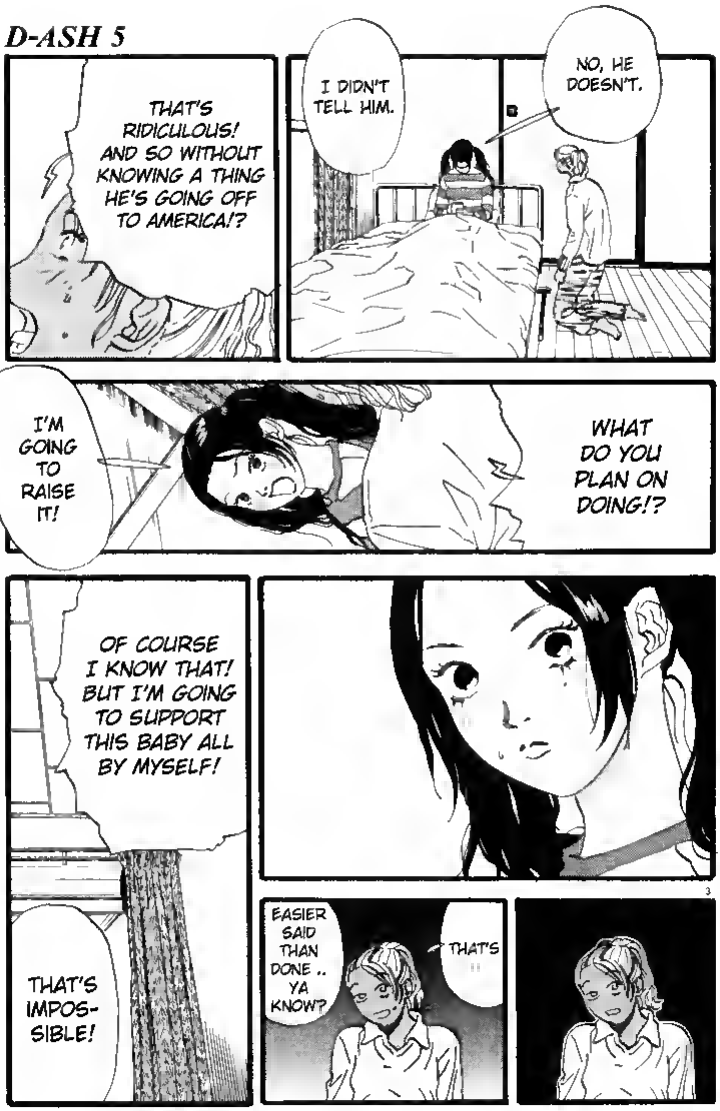
YOU WERE JUST LYING ABOUT YOUR STOMACH LAST TIME, WEREN'T YOU?
YOU'RE STILL LOOKING PALE, SAE...

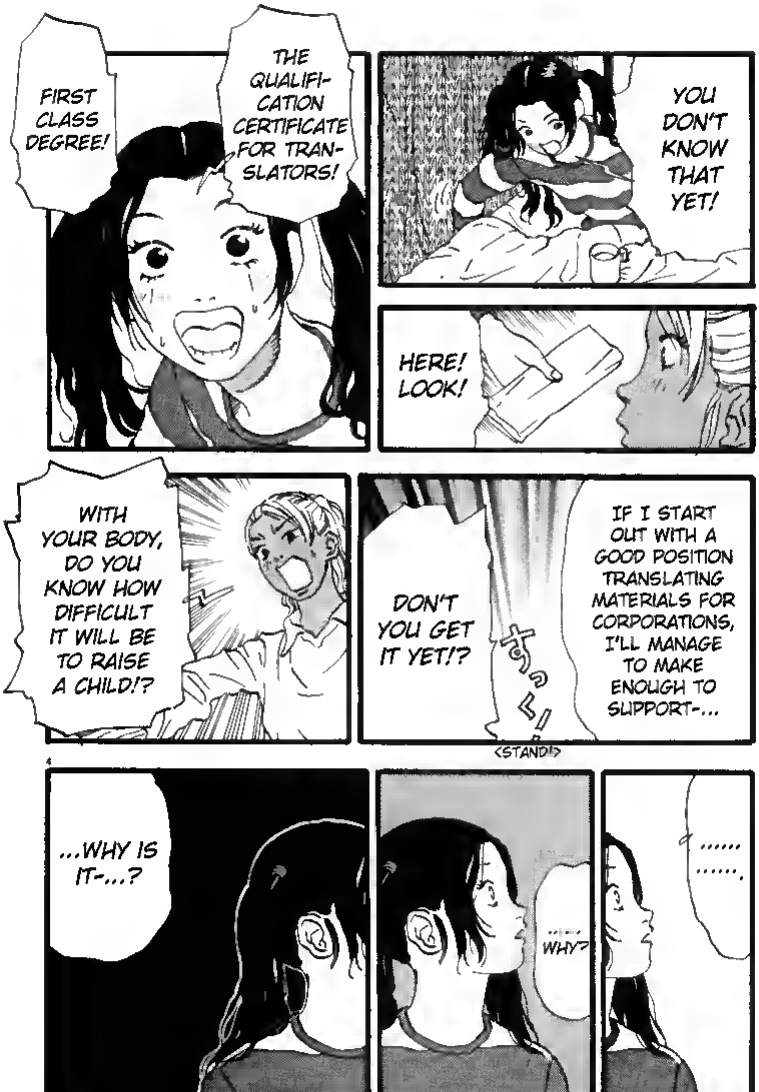
2

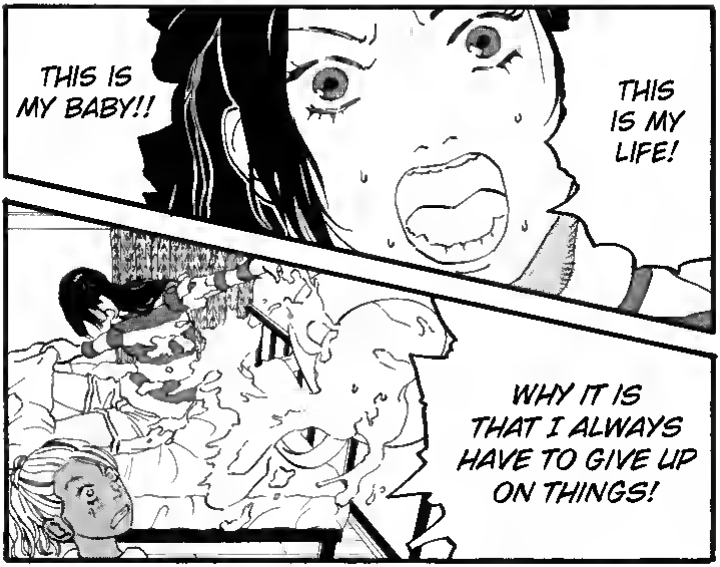
DOES TSUKA-SA...
KNOW ABOUT THIS?

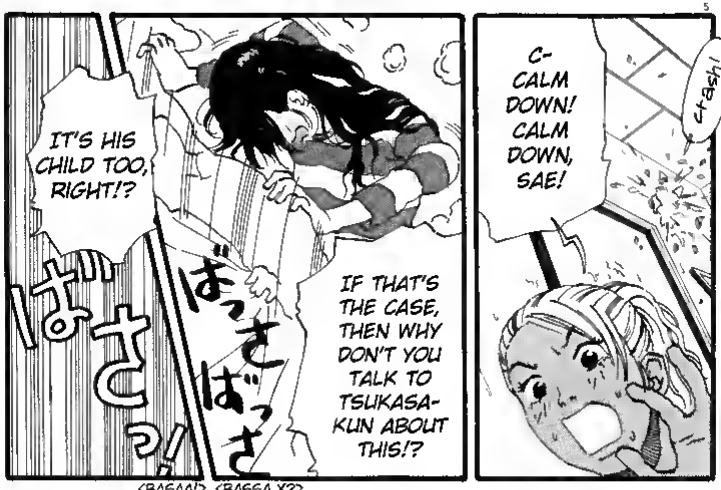
FOR THREE MONTHS ALREADY ...

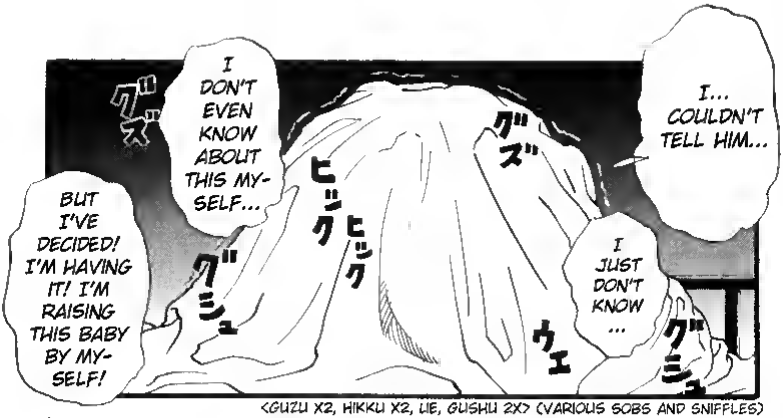
JUST LIKE YOU HAD GUESSED, I'M PREG-NANT.


THAT'S RIDICULOUS! AND SO WITHOUT KNOWING A THING HE'S GOING OFF TO AMERICA!?
I DIDN'T TELL HIM.
NO, HE DOESN'T.
WHAT DO YOU PLAN ON DOING!?
I'M GOING TO RAISE IT!
OF COURSE I KNOW THAT! BUT I'M GOING TO SUPPORT THIS BABY ALL BY MYSELF!
THAT'S IMPOS-SIBLE!
3
EASIER SAID THAN DONE .. YA KNOW?
THAT'S

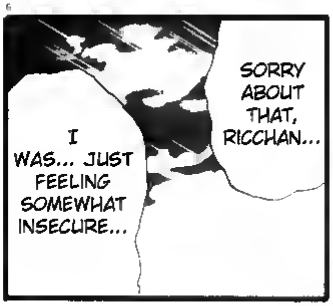

FIRST CLASS DEGREE!
THE QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATE FOR TRANSLATORS!
YOU DON'T KNOW THAT YET!
HERE! LOOK!
WITH YOUR BODY, DO YOU KNOW HOW DIFFICULT IT WILL BE TO RAISE A CHILD!?
DON'T YOU GET IT YET!?
スッ
IF I START OUT WITH A GOOD POSITION TRANSLATING MATERIALS FOR CORPORATIONS, I'LL MANAGE TO MAKE ENOUGH TO SUPPORT-...
<STAND!>
...WHY IS IT-...?
...WHY?
.....
.....


THIS IS MY BABY!!
THIS IS MY LIFE!
WHY IT IS THAT I ALWAYS HAVE TO GIVE UP ON THINGS!


IT'S HIS CHILD TOO, RIGHT!?
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN WHY DON'T YOU TALK TO TSUKASA-KUN ABOUT THIS!?
C-CALM DOWN! CALM DOWN, SAE!
CRASH!
ばっさ
ばっさ
ばっさ!
<BASAA!> <BASSA X2>



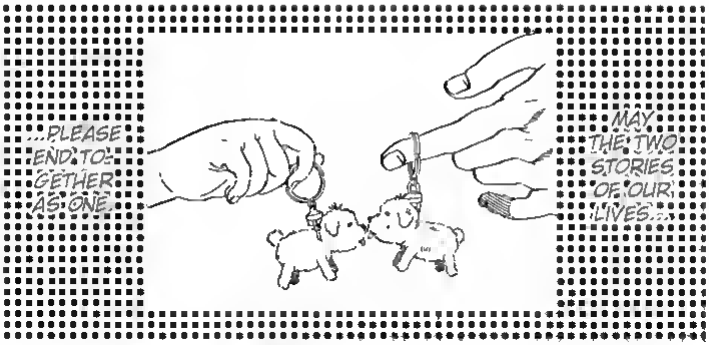
<GUZU X2, HIKKU X2, UE, GUSHU 2X> (VARIOUS SOBS AND SNIFFLES)

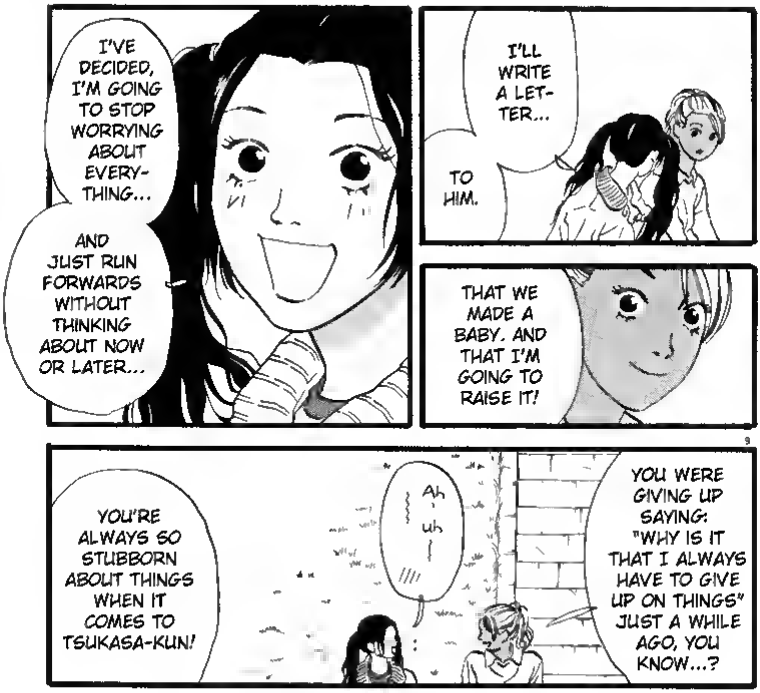


SO WHY DIDN'T YOU TALK TO TSUKASA-KUN?
ABOUT THE BABY.
NOTHING WILL COME BY WORRYING ABOUT THIS YOURSELF.
I KNOW THAT.
...I COULDN'T TELL HIM.
I WANT TO KNOW... TO WHAT EXTENT MY EXISTENCE MEANS TO HIM...
BUT I'M ALSO AFRAID OF FINDING OUT...
HE'S NO LONGER MY "CLASSMATE" IIZUKA-KUN WHO WAS THE FASTEST AT RUNNING.
HE'S SLOWLY GETTING FURTHER AND FURTHER AWAY, HEADING INTO THE WORLD STAGE...
WEREN'T THE TWO OF YOU BONDED BY FATE?
YEAH.
BUT I'M PROBABLY THE ONE WHO'S WEAKENING IT...

WHEN I HEARD HE WAS GOING TO HOUSTON ...
NOT BECOMING A BURDEN THAT WOULD HOLD HIM BACK...
...WAS ALL THAT I COULD THINK OF...
HE TRULY TRUSTS ME, AND SO HE WAS ABLE TO ANNOUNCE HIS DEPARTURE TO ME WITH SUCH A SMILE.
YET I DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH TRUST IN MYSELF.
HE...
HE'S CONTINUED TO RUN ONCE AGAIN, SO MANY TIMES FOR MY SAKE.

THINKING ABOUT IT NOW, IT WAS THAT VERY DAY AT THIS RIVER-BANK WHEN HE FIRST RAN FOR ME, THAT I STARTED...
I STARTED TO WISH WITHOUT END THAT...


"PLEASE END TOGETHER AS ONE."
MAY THE TWO STORIES OF OUR LIVES...


I'VE DECIDED, I'M GOING TO STOP WORRYING ABOUT EVERY-THING...
AND JUST RUN FORWARDS WITHOUT THINKING ABOUT NOW OR LATER...
I'LL WRITE A LET-TER...
TO HIM.
THAT WE MADE A BABY. AND THAT I'M GOING TO RAISE IT!
YOU'RE ALWAYS SO STUBBORN ABOUT THINGS WHEN IT COMES TO TSUKASA-KUN!
Ah uh
YOU WERE GIVING UP SAYING: "WHY IS IT THAT I ALWAYS HAVE TO GIVE UP ON THINGS" JUST A WHILE AGO, YOU KNOW...?

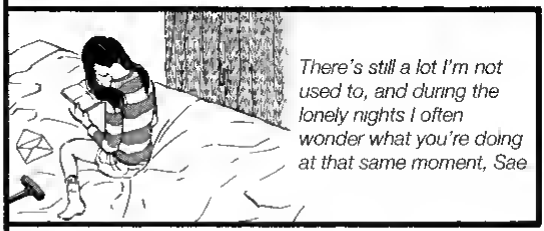
AND AFTER THAT YOU CANCELED YOUR MARRIAGE WITH FUJII-SAN DESPITE THE DEEP RELATIONSHIP YOU HAD WITH HIM.
GOING AGAINST YOUR FATHER'S EVERY WORD TO ATTEND A UNIVERSITY IN TOKYO...

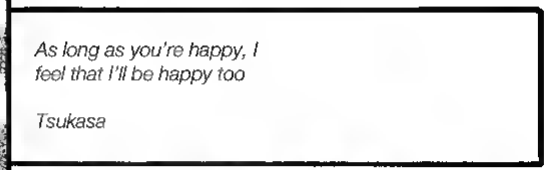
I'LL DEFINITELY BE ABLE TO RUN AGAIN.
IF I'M WITH TSUKA-SA-KUN.

HERE! AIR MAIL!
OH! YEAH! I WAS GOING TO GIVE THIS TO YOU, BUT I COMPLETELY FORGOT.

...MAY THE TWO STORIES OF OUR LIVES,

...PLEASE END TOGETHER AS ONE.





WHEW...
IS JUST AT THE TOP OF THIS SLOPE...
THE POST OFFICE...
<TACK>
SQUEAK

ZA
Pitch
Pitch
Pitch
Pitch

Somehow...
May the two stories of our lives from hereon...
14

Please end together...
As one...

HUH?
15
BUT ALL THAT I'VE DONE SO FAR AT HOUSTON IS PULL WEEDS FROM THE FIELD...
I THOUGHT THE COUNTRY OF AMERICA WOULD BE A MORE FRIENDLY PLACE...

No need to yell so much
THESE PEOPLE MUST THINK I'M JUST SOME GULLIBLE FOOL!
BAS-TARDS!
Here, a treat

bonk
.....AH
...AH.....
.....AH...
AH,
AH...
AAH...
AH.
17
W-
WHAT!?
AAaAaaHhhhh!!!
tap
tap
tap
tap
tap
tap
hide!
eek!
glance
sneak
sweat

SAW WHAT?
WHAT DID YOU SEE THAT WAS SO GREAT!?
huff huff huff huff huff
I SAW I SAW I SAW I SAW I...
OH REALLY? GOOD FOR YOU THEN.
IT'S PROBABLY 'CAUSE OF THAT...
THIS! HE GAVE IT TO ME!
orange
CARL LEWIS!
HE CAME! ON THE FIELD!
WHAT!? DOES THAT MEAN I'M MAKING AN APPEARANCE TOO!?
I HEARD THEY WERE IN A RUSH PREPARING FOR THE RACE, AND SO THEY GOT HIM TO VOLUNTEER FOR IT.
YOU KNOW THE SPORTS FESTIVAL THEY'RE HOLDING ON CAMPUS FOR THE KIDS ON CHRISTMAS EVE THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW?
THAT?

AND SO, THE FINAL RACE LEFT WILL BE THE RACE OF YOUR DREAMS, WON'T IT!
Smile!
THE RACE OF MY DREAMS ...
hoho
hoho
ooh
hoo
WITH MY OWN GOD...
19
RITSU MAEDA
IT'S ADDRESSED TO YOU.
OH!
THAT'S RIGHT, THERE WAS SOMETHING I PICKED UP FROM THE STUDENT AFFAIRS OFFICE.
5
Is this how I get thanks...
rip!
snatch!

DIDN'T THEY EVEN KNOW THE ADDRESS YOU WERE STAYING AT?
WHO KNOWS, MAYBE IT'S A BREAK-UP LETTER OR SOMETHING!
Hehehe
BY THE WAY! ABOUT THE RACE IN TWO DAYS,
YOU'LL BE SHOWING OFF YOUR STUFF, OKAY!?
IT'S MORE THAN JUST A RACE AGAINST CARL LEWIS.
THE BIGWIGS WHO GOT YOU THIS CHANCE OVER-SEAS ARE COMING TO SEE YOUR PERFORMANCE TOO!
THERE'S EVEN REPORTERS COMING FROM JAPAN TO COVER THIS.
I GOTTA GO BACK TO JAPAN...
YES EXACTLY!
THIS IS A CHANCE TO SHOW EVERYONE THAT YOU'RE MORE THAN JUST A SMALL FRY...

<WHAT?!?
B- BACK TO JAPAN!?
どぅいぃ!?
MY GIRL- FRIEND...
...HAD A MISCARRIAGE.
I JUST... I HAVE GO BACK TO JAPAN NO MATTER WHAT.
WHY!? WHAT HAPPENED!?
WHAT!?
MISCAR- RIAGE... YOU... HAVE A CHILD!?
I- I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THIS AT ALL!
I'M GOING TO GO MEET HER RIGHT NOW!
W- WAIT A MINUTE! IIZUKA- KUN!
ザ!!
<ZA!!?

WHAT ABOUT THE RACE WITH YOUR GOD, CARL LEWIS!?
I'LL BE BACK BY THE DAY AFTER TOMOR-ROW!!
IZUKAAAAA...!!!

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JUJU: I'VE BEEN TOLD THAT THESE LI'L MESSAGES ARE AN EMOTIONAL KILLJOY AFTER THE HIGHLY SUSPENSEFUL AND TEAR-JERKING CHAPTERS .. WELL, WELCOME TO MY WORLD :P I NO LONGER HAVE ANY EMOTIONS OR FEELINGS DOING THESE D-ASH CHAPTERS... AND THEY'RE STARTING TO FEEL LIKE A HORRIFIC COMBINATION OF A JAPANESE TEST, AN ENGLISH ESSAY AND A GRAPHIC DESIGN PROJECT.

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PROOFING & QC:

TBA

AND SO, THAT MEANS I CAN ONLY STAY IN TOKYO FOR A SHORT 5 HOURS...
I HAVE TO BE BACK IN HOUSTON BY NOON OF THE 24TH.
BUT EVEN SO, NO MATTER HOW...
I'M GOING TO MEET WITH SAE!!

WHY ARE HIGH-WAYS IN JAPAN ALWAYS LIKE THIS!
BUT- WHAT THE HELL!?

EHH?
ガチャ ガチャ
MISTER! HERE'S FINE! I'LL RUN THE REST OF THE WAY!

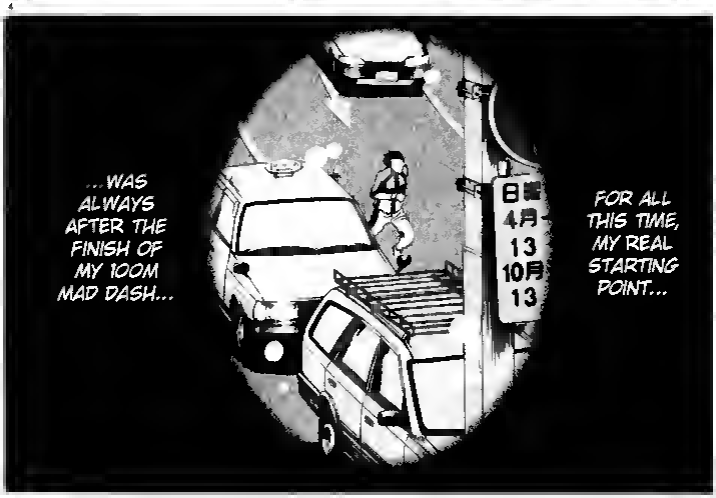
IT'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS EVERY YEAR AT THIS TIME.
WELL, IT CAN'T BE HELPED... SINCE IT'LL BE CHRIST-MAS EVE WHEN MID-NIGHT STRIKES.
honk

2 <GACHYA X2>

UH... COULD YOU POSSIBLY BE...
gachya!
AH!?
THAT SPRINTER ...!?

THAT'S RIGHT!
I'M THE GENIUS SPRINTER!
IIZUKA TSUKASA!!
act.54
Final D-ASH

4



YET,

SINCE,

I KNEW NOT OF IT...

I JUST RAN...

AND RAN

AND RAN

AND RAN

AND RAN

AND RAN

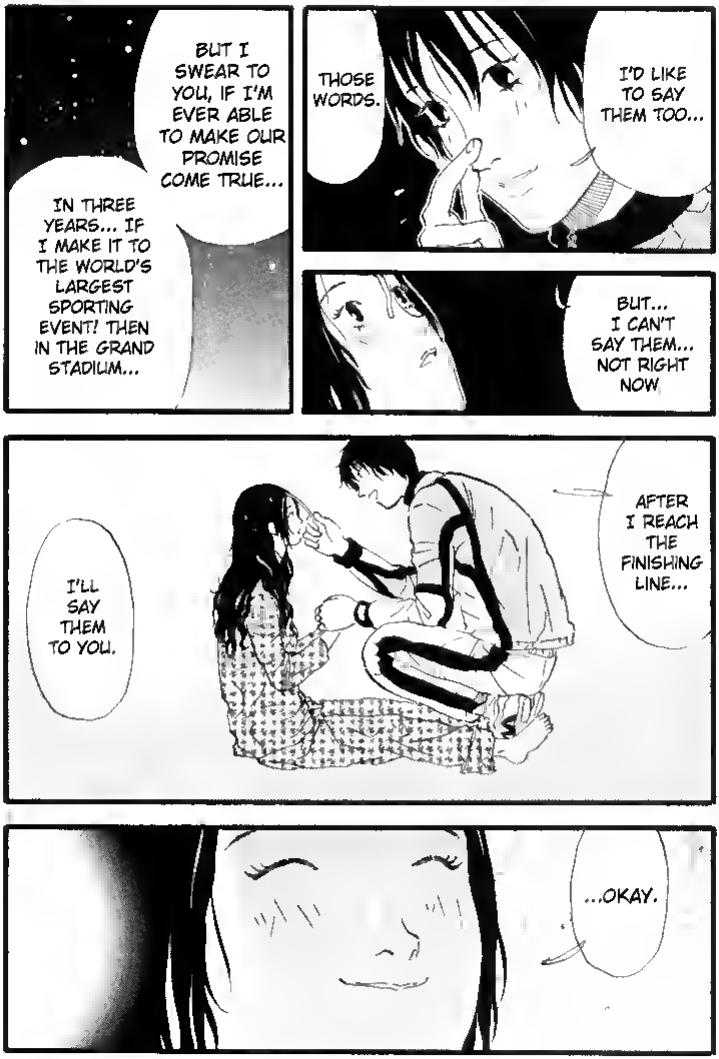
AND RAN

AND RAN

FROM NOW ON, NO MATTER WHAT, IN TIMES OF TROUBLE, I WILL DEFI-NITELY BE..:
AND SO, SINCE YOU'RE THE ONE PERSON I NEVER WANT TO SEE IN TEARS AGAIN
BY YOUR SIDE
11
12
10
9
8

DING DONG
.....
IS THAT...
RIC-CHAN?
tack
gachya
Kyaaa
<BANG!?
haa haa haa!
MERRY CHRIST-MAS!

WHY...
...ARE YOU HERE?
slide
AND WHAT DAY DO YOU THINK IT IS RIGHT NOW?!
IT'S 'CAUSE I'M SANTA CLAUS AFTER ALL!
...I LOVE YOU...


BUT I SWEAR TO YOU, IF I'M EVER ABLE TO MAKE OUR PROMISE COME TRUE...
IN THREE YEARS... IF I MAKE IT TO THE WORLD'S LARGEST SPORTING EVENT! THEN IN THE GRAND STADIUM...
THOSE WORDS.
I'D LIKE TO SAY THEM TOO...
BUT... I CAN'T SAY THEM... NOT RIGHT NOW.
I'LL SAY THEM TO YOU.
AFTER I REACH THE FINISHING LINE...
...OKAY.

I HAVE TO LEAVE BY DAWN.

BUT UNTIL THEN, I'LL SLEEP LIKE THIS BY YOUR SIDE.

YEAH, VERY WARM...

IT'S WARM, ISN'T IT?

And so, the story of our lives

...Continued.

3 years later...
Sydney...

<WAAAH>
ワアアアア
YES! THE MEN'S 100M FINALS ARE SOON ABOUT TO BEGIN!
オオオオ
<OOOH>
OF COURSE, IN THE CENTRE OF ATTENTION, WOULD BE JAPAN'S VERY OWN, VERY FIRST 100M FINALIST, IIZUKA TSUKASA!
Oh, the anchors? OK!
12
step
AFTER FINISHING THE SEMI-FINALS IN 10.02 SECONDS AND MAKING IT TO THE FINAL RACE,
I CAN BET THAT EVERY PERSON IN JAPAN LET OUT A CHEER OF JOY BEFORE THEIR TELEVISIONS!

IT TRULY WAS LIKE SEEING A "DREAM" COME TRUE BEFORE OUR VERY EYES!
<DON X2>
<DON!>
GO FOR IT! TSUKA-SA!! FIGHTO!!
SHUT UP WILL YOU! I CAN'T HEAR A THING!
Why'd you even bring a drum here?
nudge
SHH!

<BANG>

FOURTH PLACE! IIZUKA HAS GOTTEN FOURTH PLACE!!
9.99 SECONDS! AND HE'S DONE IT! IIZUKA'S 9 SECOND RUN!!
AND HIS TIME... IS OUT!
WHAT A PITY! SO CLOSE YET SO FAR FROM A MEDAL!
ALTHOUGH HE COULDN'T WIN A MEDAL, IIZUKA HAS PAINTED A NEW AND GLORIOUS PAGE IN THE HISTORY OF JAPAN'S ATHLETICS!!

Iizuka-san! You've finally done it haven't you!?
Congratulation! Mr Iizuka!!
UH, E-EXCUSE ME, COULD YOU JUST-
OHH~ AND IT SEEMS THAT THE REPORTERS ARE WASTING NO TIME AT ALL TRYING TO INTERVIEW IIZUKA!
Please look this way!
turn
turn
What does it feel like setting the Japanese record!
!
SAE
!!!

I LOVE YOU!
I'M SORRY! I COULDN'T GET A MEDAL!
BUT I'LL TRY MY BEST NEXT TIME!!
WE CAN EVEN HAVE A BABY!
SINCE I'LL ALWAYS BE BY YOUR SIDE FROM NOW ON!
AND SO!
LET'S GET MARRIED!
FIRST OF ALL, WE'LL MAKE A BABY! AND THEN I'LL RUN FOR THE SAKE OF YOU AND OUR BABY!
WHAT DO YOU SAY!?

LET'S HAVE SEX!
THEN!
WHEN WE MEET AGAIN IN JAPAN...
OF COURSE!
スゥ!

OK!
D-ASH END

あとがき

●うそから出たまこと●

あとがきの最初に書いておくけど、私ってうそつきなんです。思い起こせば、5年位昔の事になるでしょうか。当時、新人漫画家だった私が、やはり同じく新人漫画家だった、秋重君に、初めて会った時の話です。自分の作品だけでは、まだ食べていけない時代、私は、スピリッツの某H漫画家Y氏、そして秋重君は、同じくスピリッツの若手人気漫画家K氏の所に、アシスタントに通っていました。そこで、お互いの仕事場での裏話ネタなどで盛り上がっていたのですが、秋重君は、K氏に、ストーカー的プレゼントを送って来るファンについて、話し始めました。

秋重「いるんだよねぇ、勘違いした奴！(笑)」

北沢「……あ、それ、送ったの、私なんです。……(暗)」

秋重「……え!?(驚)」

北沢「……K先生、迷惑してたんだ……(沈)」

秋重「い、いや、その……別に……(冷汗)」

必死に慰めてくれる秋重君でしたが、私は、腹の中で腹を抱えて笑っちゃいました。

「やだなア。うそですよ。」と、言った後の、秋重君の悔しそうな表情は、今でも忘れられません。次に会ったのは、二年後位でしたが、「覚えてます?」と訊く私に対して、「ええ、騙されたからよく、覚えてます。」と、恨みのこもった、目で言われてしまいました。

そんな風に、どうしようもないうそで人を欺き、喜んでいる私ですが、「D-ASH」に関しても、全くのうそ八百です。

とにかく私は、陸上の〝り〟の字をかじるどころか、体育の授業でさえ、真面目に受けたのは、小学生までででした。スポーツどころか、体を動かすのが大嫌いな人間で、最初、原案のシナリオに、「何か、スポーツを入れろ」と、初代の担当さんに命じられた時は、「げっ。」と思いましたが、野球とサッカーは、多人数、書くの面倒だし、ルールもよくわからないけど、100m走位なら、簡単だろうと思い、タイトル、「D-ASH」が出来たのです。そして、それと、自動的に、紗英ちゃんの足が不自由になってしまったのでした。

それからは、大うその連続でした。最後は、ラブラブのハッピーエンドにしようとする予定だったので、SFのつもりで書き始めようと、決意しました。陸上関係の本を読んだり、某、元五輪出場、名スプリンター氏に、強引に取材させてもらったりと、いろいろ短距離の事を知るうちに、だんだん、私の中でうその世界の事じゃなくなっていきました。ディティール的には、三木君は、ドーピングして自殺するわ、C・ルイスなんて出てくるわ、司は、最終的に、五輪で前人未踏の9秒台出すわと、うそのオンパレードの様ですが、それぞれの感情的な部分では、真実であり、読んでくれた方々に対して、真実として、気持ちを動かす事が出来たら、私は初めて、うそつきではなくって、原作者になれるのだと思います。

長くなりましたが、これからも応援、よろしくお願いします。

平成10年1月13日

北沢未也

STAFF - 中野さん 渡邊くん

単行本DESIGN - 孝橋 淳二 様

担当 - 宮坂 保志 様

SPIRITS編集部の皆様

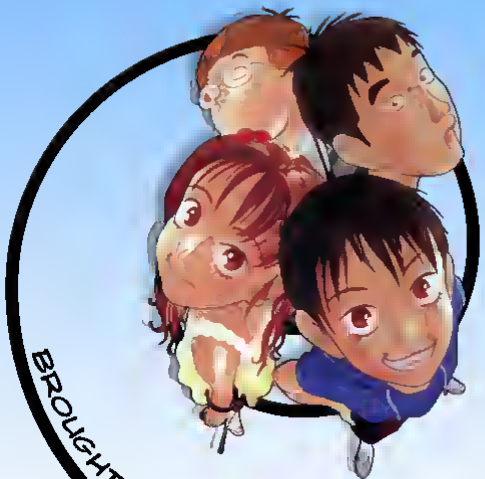
非協力 - 堀 晴樹 様

おしゃれさん - 有藤 智文 様

皆様本当にアリガト - ございました

【秋】

D-ASH
to
next goal



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JUJU: THERE WAS ORIGINALLY A 492 WORD RANT HERE... BUT LOOKING AT IT NOW 3 MONTHS LATER, (FINISHED EDITING ALL OF D-ASH BACK IN JUNE 17, 07... I'M TYPING THIS ON OCT. 05) I REALLY DON'T CARE... AND HONESTLY, WHO READS THESE? JUST FOR THE RECORD, I FINISHED THE DRAFTS FOR 30 CHAPTERS IN 76 DAYS DURING THE SUMMER... AND LOOKING BACK AT THEM NOW... SCARES ME. AS USUAL THANKS GO TO SPECIAL STAFF MEMBERS AT AW... YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE AND WHAT YOU'VE DONE :P WITH THAT SAID, HOPE YOU'VE ENJOYED READING THIS MUCH MUCH MUCH MORE THAN I HAVE EDITING IT... AND NOW FOR MYSELF TO DISAPPEAR.

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